Numismatic Association of Southern California

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California State Numismatic Association

# The California Numismatist

# The California Numismatist

*Official Publication of the*
*California State Numismatic Association*
*and the*
*Numismatic Association of Southern California*
*Winter, 2005, Volume 2, Number 4*

## *About the Cover*

Seems like the whole planet is buzzing about the Old San Francisco Mint lately. We have a plethora (look it up) of articles on the Granite Lady, and there's a possible commemorative coin in the works. Don Kagin, the San Francisco Museum and Historical Society (SFMHS), and many friends of the venerable structure have done much good work with promoting this effort. If you would like more info or to contribute to the cause in some way please see the beautiful and well done SFMHS Web site at: www.sfhistory.org.

## *Visit Us on the Web*

*The California Numismatist* has a Web site at www.CalNumismatist.com. You can find the official scoop there in between issues. Also, both CSNA and NASC maintain their own Web sites at:

www.Calcoin.org
www.NASC.net

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# *Presidents' Messages*

## NASC...

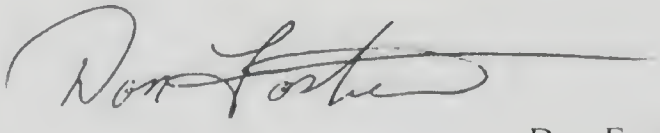
During my tenure as president of NASC one of the highlights we had was to celebrate our 50th anniversary. I thank all of you who were involved in the year-long planning of the anniversary, especially the committee headed by Chairman Dr. Thomas Fitzgerald. There were many ideas and suggestions that needed to be implemented during the year. The anniversary celebration was a huge success thanks to the many individuals who were involved in the year-long process.

I want to thank the officers, board members, and committee chairmen for all their work and dedication during the past two years; it has made my job easier. Thank you!

As an organization we resolved the *California Numismatist* dilemma. We in NASC are proud that the award-winning journal is part of our fine organization.

We recently took a trip to Julian, California, an old gold mining town; the town was saved from forest fires in the area not too long ago. The most interesting part of the trip was a guided tour of the Eagle Mine. The first part of the tunnel was dug by hand, and the miners in those days were not very tall. It was not easygoing keeping one eye on the ore track down on the floor and the other eye looking up at the tunnel ceiling so you didn't bump your head. So off we went deep into the mountain and about a quarter of a mile in the guide is explaining to us why the gold veins travel in the direction they do: because of earthquakes and the mine is on or near a fault line. That's something you don't want to hear while you are deep inside a mine. Anyway the mine and tour were great—we really enjoyed ourselves. Oh yeah, at one point the guide turned off the lights in the tunnel just so we could see how dark it is with no light, and I mean *no light.* I didn't realize til then how dark dark could be.

Repectfully yours,



Don Foster
NASC President

# CSNA...

May I say that the Northern Educational Symposium was nothing short of amazing? Vallejo Numismatic Society was prepared, looked sharp, and made everyone feel welcome, as did the staff of the Naval Museum. We had four outstanding lecturers. At midday we enjoyed a delicious catered lunch in the museum dining hall. The Vice Mayor of Vallejo (who was in attendance), issued a proclamation welcoming us to the city. Honestly, when CSNA holds symposiums please make it a top priority to be there. They are terrific!

Amazing things happen because of local coin clubs and numismatic societies such as the one in Vallejo. In California there should be few complaints of not having a coin club within driving distance. When you attend your given club meetings, attend with a friend or two or three. Do not forget to include your children, grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. Most numismatic programs are youth friendly, but you can make sure by phoning ahead to see if the upcoming local meeting program is suitable. Once the newcomers are there, make them feel welcome by greeting them and also by asking about their collecting interests.

If there are members in your coin collecting community with similar interests you can introduce them to those individuals. Gathering time is a good opportunity to have everyone get acquainted. You must be vigilant and somewhat quick or some newcomers can slip in and out unnoticed. Be sympathetic to these fledgling numismatists; do what you can to be of help.

Those of you noticing members of the numismatic community who are not yet members of California State Numismatic Association, remember that you still have a chance to get a beautiful recruiter's medal. Recruit a member—get a medal, recruit three members—get two medals, recruit five members—get the three medal set!

Have a very happy, healthy, and prosperous new year!

Lila C. Anderson

Lila Anderson
CSNA President

# *Editor's Page*

At this time of year it seems the calendar keeps spinning faster and faster. I can never quite believe it when the holiday season creeps up on me. Feels like I just got adjusted to the end of the last year and here we are again. Well, I know that you all know just what I mean.

Sol Taylor has written an article for us. He's gotten a lot of press lately with an award for his column in the Signal, a newspaper out in Santa Clarita. Dr. Taylor is a past-president of NASC and chaired the 1975 ANA show in Los Angeles. He'll also be the emcee at the NASC banquet in February.

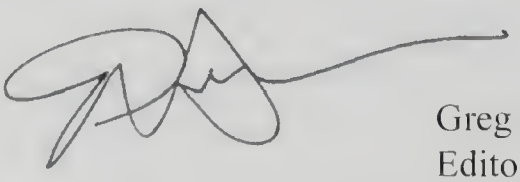
In this issue Jim Wells tells us about the Al Baber Exhibit Award and it's final appearance after a 21 year run. Jim clues us in with a profile of the man and his family and their support of the numismatic community.

Dennis Halladay crows about finishing a rather arduous journey, and tells us just how he managed the accomplishment. I challenge any of our readers who consider themselves dedicated to a particular series to try and match his feat!

Rounding out our articles, the lucky Jim Hunt recounts a visit to the rarely-visited San Francisco Mint during the summer's ANA show in that city.

Tom Fitzgeral gives us some history on the old San Francisco Mint in his Numismatic Glass column—a timely topic considering all the hubbub about a possible commemorative, and Mark Watson reviews a big-named author's first foray into a new book series by Whitman Publishing—maybe a gift you should consider for yourself this holiday season. Kay Lenker and Stan Turrini give us the scoop on all the club happenings, and the NASC and CSNA folks filled in the issue with their regular contributions.

We have a busy few months ahead of us: board meetings, a convention, an awards/installation banquet, an educational symposium, and if you'll check the calendar listings, a whole lot of coin shows. Better get your rollerskates on and get busy...



Greg Burns
Editor

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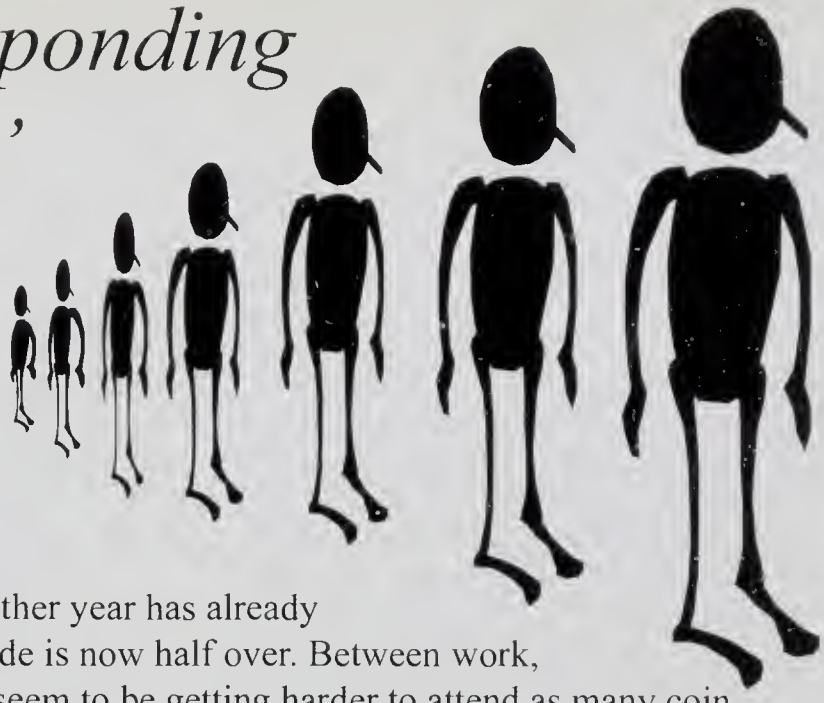
# *The Corresponding Secretaries' Reports*



**CSNA—**
*by Dennis Halladay*

Amazing, isn't it?

Twelve months and another year has already flown by, and the new decade is now half over. Between work, family and friends, does it seem to be getting harder to attend as many coin shows as we might like? I know what one item on my list of resolutions for 2006 will be.

Also amazing this year has been the impact of President Lila Anderson's membership drive. The 14 newest members and clubs shown below increase this year's tally to 55. Not only is this the most new members since 1997, but it represents a 10.8% gain in total CSNA membership. That's the biggest increase in growth rate since 1992.

Leading the way in new member sponsorships was "Mr. Membership", Phil Iversen, with eight. Close behind was Editor Greg Burns with six. The internet and our website attracted a similar number of applications. Congratulations and thanks to everyone who encouraged people to join our organization.

Best wishes to everyone for a merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

**NASC—**
*by Harold Katzman*

Since my last report, none of the numbers regarding membership have changed. I have received and made several address corrections to the roster, but nothing else of significants to report.

On a personal note, on behalf of the Katzman family, we were all deeply touched by the wonderful article Tom wrote in the last issue about mom. Thanks a million, Tom!

### CSNA New Addresses

Charles White, R-6027
now in Tehachapi, CA
Eileen White, A-6028
now in Tehachapi, CA
Jeff Heath, R-4440
now in Anthem, AZ
Humberto Gutierrez, R-6062
now in W. Sacramento, CA
Stephen Rowles, R-5954
still in Los Angeles, CA

### CSNA New Life Members

Maurice O. Ortiz Jr., L-59-10 (LA)
Brentwood, CA

### CSNA New Club Life Members

Brentwood Coin Club, CL-59-11 (LA)
Brentwood, CA

### CSNA New Regular Members

David R. Peterson, R-6090 (PI)
Hesperia, CA
Lee & Joyce Darnell, R-6091 (NS)
Ramona, CA
Leon Worden, R-6092 (GB)
Santa Clarita, CA
Tim Walker, R-6093 (IN)
Anaheim, CA
Michael Hollingshead, R-6094 (IN)
El Sobrante, CA
Frank J. Pedersen, R-6095 (GD)
El Dorado Hills, CA
Tom Byrne, R-6096 (JA)
Daly City, CA
D.F. Schneider, R-6097 (IN)
Phoenix, AZ
Fred Schell, R-6098 (PI)
Petaluma, CA
Charles Herring, R-6099 (PI)
San Francisco, CA
Eugene P. Coyle, R-6100 (PI)
Mission Viejo, CA

### CSNA New Associate Member

Marian F. Coyle, A-6101 (PI)
Mission Viejo, CA

### Key to CSNA New Member Sponsors:

NS = no sponsor
GB = Greg Burns
JA = Joel Anderson
LA = Lila Anderson
PI = Phil Iverson
GD= Gordon Donnell
IN = internet

### Sponsor Totals in 2005 CSNA Membership Drive

Greg Burns (6)
Phil Iverson (8)
Gordon Donnell (2)
Lila Anderson (2)
Joel Anderson (2)
Jim Draper (1)

### CSNA Summary

| | |
|---|---|
| Membership on Aug. 20, 2005 | 529 |
| New Life members | 1 |
| New Club Life members | 1 |
| New Regular members | 11 |
| New Associate members | 1 |
| Reinstated after payment of dues | 1 |
| Adjustment to membership count | -1 |
| Membership on Nov. 27, 2005 | 543 |

## Dear Members—Please Note!

If you've moved, please help us keep our addresses up to date. Take a moment to drop us a short note to ensure that you keep getting your copy of The California Numismatist:

CSNA—Dennis Halladay
20567 Nathan Drive
Riverside, CA 92508-2931

NASC—Harold Katzman
P.O. Box 3382
Tustin, CA 92781-3382

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Master of Ceremonies—Dr. Sol Taylor

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# *Coins on United States Stamps*

*by Dr. Sol Taylor*

*Scott #1734, a US 13 cent stamp issued in 1977 features an 1877 Indian Head cent.*

In 1966,1 published an article in THE NUMISMATIST titled "Coins on Stamps". Since the United States had never issued (at the time) a stamp featuring a coin (or coins) in the design, the entire article focused on coins of Greece, Israel, and several other countries.

In the Scott's catalogue of United States stamps (the standard catalogue for United States stamps), the following stamps feature one or more coins and in some cases actually commemorate a numismatic event.

The first stamp to show coins, was one of the series of American Revolutionary Bicentennial stamps starting in 1971 and ending in 1977. One stamp, Scott #1561 was the first to show coins in the design. It was issued to honor the contribution of Haym Salomon to the Revolutionary cause. There are four foreign coins shown in the design, one a Spanish pillar design, another looks like a French coin, and two others not easily identified. Salomon a Polish Jew emigrated to New York in 1772. With his knowledge of European currencies, he won a post as "Broker to the Office of Finance of the United States". His financial dealings in foreign coins and bills enabled the colonial leadership to finance its revolution against the British.

In 1975 a pair of stamps was issued honoring the Banking and Commerce—actually 100th anniversary of the modern banking system. The attached pair of stamps, Scott #1577-1578 features four coins on a background of currency motifs. The coins are: an Indian head cent, a Morgan dollar , a seated Liberty half dollar and a $20 Liberty (no dates on the last three coins). The left stamp says, "Banking" and the right stamp says, "Commerce". The use of the Morgan dollar is odd since it was not issued until 1878. A more suitable dollar would have been the Trade dollar or the Seated Liberty dollar dated 1875.

The next stamp to feature a coin was the regular issue 13 cent stamp

## CALIFORNIA QUARTER FIRST DAY PNC

Philatelic-Numismatic Cover features the California State Quarter and CSNA's 116th Convention medal honoring the quarter, designed by Garrett & Michelle Burke. Postmarked in Sacramento on Jan. 31, 2005, the first day of issue for the California Quarter. The cover features 4 to 9 historic California related stamps.

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issued in 1977. It featured an 1877 Indian head cent. This smaller format stamp was an experiment to see if smaller stamps (200 per sheet) would be acceptable to the public. It was not. It is Scott #1734.

In 1981 a stamp was issued honoring the sesquicentennial of the Savings and Loan Association. The design shows a toy bank shaped like a building with three coins entering the slot—a Barber dime, a Buffalo nickel and an Indian head cent. No dates are visible. The 18 cent stamp is Scott #1911.

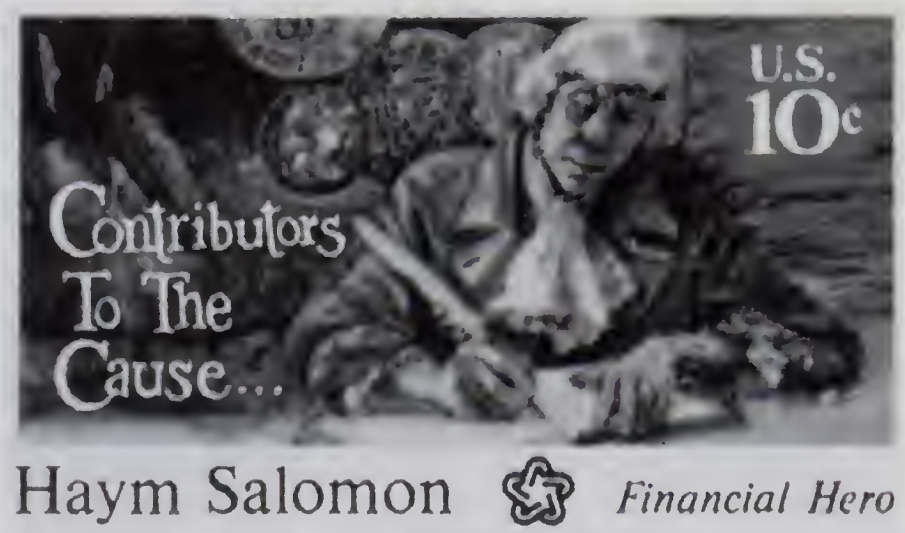
In 1991 a 29 cent stamp was issued honoring the 100th anniversary of the American Numismatic Association. The stamp only says, "Numismatics". It features a flying eagle cent, a St. Gaudens $20 gold piece and portions of two large sized notes. The choice of the two coins is odd since neither was contemporary in 1891—the flying eagle was last minted in 1858 and the $20 St. Gaudens did not come out until 1907. The stamp is Scott #2558.


References:

A History of the Jews in America, Howard M. Sachar, PP. 25-26,1993.

Scott, Standard Catalogue of United States Stamps, 2005


*Dr. Sol Taylor is NASC life member number LM21, a past NASC president, and author of* Standard Guide to the Lincoln Cent.




*Scott #1561, a US 10 cent stamp issued from 1971-1977 depicting Haym Salomon, a contributor to the United States revolution.*

# *Albert Baber Exhibit Award Ends 21-Year CSNA Run*

*by Jim Wells*

*Albert Baber*

Coin exhibits have been a featured attraction at most coin shows and conventions, as exhibitors display their collection treasures in competition for coveted exhibit prizes. Since 1984, the Albert L. Baber Best in Show award has been the top exhibit award at many CSNA conventions. Over these 21 years, 30 Baber awards have been made at CSNA semi-annual conventions; while at other meets, the Best in Show awards were sponsored by co-hosts NASC or COIN.

The Baber award is now being retired. At the last CSNA Board meeting, it was suggested that CSNA and NASC alternately sponsor the Best of Show awards on alternating conventions, as they now do at the Golden State Coin Show.

The Baber award is named for long-time California numismatist and exhibitor Al Baber. Al started collecting coins when his wife Dorothy gave him a bag of Lincoln cents and a "Red Book" to help Al recuperate from a mild heart attack in 1954. This started a 45-year involvement in numismatics,

*The obverse of the Baber medal shows the name of the recipient, and the date and location of the award. Do you recognize some of the familiar elements used in the design?*

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where he volunteered and was very active in local, state, regional, and national organizations in a variety of capacities.

He served as President of the San Diego Numismatic Society (SDNS), the San Diego County Inter-Club Numismatic Council (SDCICNC), California Exonumist Society, La Mesa Numismatic Society, Convair Coineers, and the CSNA. He was a frequent exhibitor and consistent award winner at local and regional coin shows in California until he died in 1999.

Al's numismatic honors included the CSNA Medal of Merit, ANA Medal of Merit, SDCICNC Medal of Merit, Krause Numismatic Ambassador Award, Token and Medals Society Medal of Merit, and ANA's Glen Smedley Memorial Award, shared with Dorothy. Of all his honors, Al was most proud of his appointment to the U. S. President's Assay Commission in 1969.

*The reverse of the medal has the familiar CSNA logo as used on several other association medals.*

*Al presents Kay Lenker with the Best of Show award in 1999.*

*Sponsor Larry Baber and Dorothy Baber flank the final winner, Ken Spindler*

Al's enthusiasm for coins rubbed off on his family. Al's wife Dorothy has served as secretary, vice president, and president of six coin organizations, including SDNS. She has received ANA's Medal of Merit, Outstanding District Delegate, and ANA's highest honor, the Farran Zerbe Memorial Award for Distinguished Service. Their son Larry started collecting coins on his paper route in the 1950s, and has been president of the Hawaii State Numismatic Society, the Maui Coin Club, and SDNS. An award winning exhibitor, he served two years as ANA's chief judge. Larry's wife Cecilia frequently volunteers her time at ANA conventions.

Al, Dorothy, and Larry have all been designated ANA Goodfellows as past general chairs of ANA conventions. The entire family received the ANA's 2003 Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of outstanding contributions to organized numismatics.

Al's son Larry established the Al Baber Best in Show award for CSNA in 1984. Larry was on the CSNA board when the Abe Kosoff Foundation ended its sponsorship of Best in Show Awards. After conferring with his dad and wife, Larry agreed to sponsor future awards. The first two winners received a clock and a silver-plated ice bucket. Larry preferred to award medals instead of plaques or trophies. Larry's daughter April Hiilani (Baber) Shawcroft designed the medals when she was about 12 years old, and her initials AHB appeared on the medals.

Kay Lenker has won the most times, with five winning exhibits. Tom Fitzgerald has four wins, and Al Lo and Gary Acquistapace, three each. Two wins have been recorded by Phil Iversen and Larry Tapper.

*See the following page for a complete listing of all past winners.*

**Baber Award Winners at CSNA Semi-Annual Conventions**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 75th | Barbara Hyde | Oct 1984 |
| 76th | Victor Titoff | Apr 1985 |
| 77th | Kay Lenker | Oct 1985 |
| 78th | Tom Fitzgerald | Apr 1986 |
| 79th | Kay Lenker | Oct 1986 |
| 80th | David Lange | May 1987 |
| 81st | Tom Fitzgerald | Nov 1987 |
| 82nd | Gary Acquistapace | May 1988 |
| 83rd | Ethel Lenhert | Nov 1988 |
| 84th | Tom Fitzgerald | May 1989 |
| 85th | No Baber Award Issued | Sep 1989 |
| 86th | No Baber Award Issued | Jan 1990 |
| 87th | Al Lo | Sep 1990 |
| 88th | No Baber Award Issued | Jan 1991 |
| 89th | Kay Lenker | Nov 1991 |
| 90th | Bill Grant | Feb 1992 |
| 91st | No Baber Award Issued | Jan 1993 |
| 92nd | No Baber Award Issued | Jun 1993 |
| 93rd | Gary Acquistapace | Jan 1994 |
| 94th | No Baber Award Issued | Sep 1994 |
| 95th | Al Lo | Jan 1995 |
| 96th | Kay Lenker | Sep 1995 |
| 97th | Kevin Malloy | Jan 1996 |
| 98th | Angus Bruce | Sep 1996 |
| 99th | Chuck White | Jan 1997 |
| 100th | No Baber Award Issued | Jun 1997 |
| 101st | No Baber Award Issued | Sep 1997 |
| 102nd | Robert Myles | Jan 1998 |
| 103rd | No Baber Award Issued | Aug 1998 |
| 104th | Kay Lenker | Jan 1999 |
| 105th | Tom Fitzgerald | Aug 1999 |
| 106th | Phil Iversen | Feb 2000 |
| 107th | No Baber Award Issued | Aug 2000 |
| 108th | Phil Iversen | Feb 2001 |
| 109th | Larry Tapper | Aug 2001 |
| 110th | Mike Turrini | Feb 2002 |
| 111th | No Baber Award Issued | Aug 2002 |
| 112th | Gary Aquistapace | Jan 2003 |
| 113th | Larry Tapper | Aug 2003 |
| 114th | No Baber Award Issued | Jan 2004 |
| 115th | No Baber Award Issued | Aug 2004 |
| 116th | Al Lo | Jan 2005 |
| 117th | Ken Spindler | Aug 2005 |

**Through the Numismatic Glass:**

# *Commemorative Coins Honoring the Granite Lady*

*by Dr. Thomas F. Fitzgerald*

*The second San Fransico Mint, done in the Greek revival style, is lovingly known as "The Granite Lady."*

There has been a proliferation of the modern commemorative coins beginning with the 1982 half-dollars for the 250th anniversary of the birth of George Washington. These issues have honored individuals and events as well as raising money for a myriad of causes from the Olympic games to various memorials. But none of these coins were directly related to any of the United States Mints until the recent bills honoring the "Granite Lady," the second United States Branch Mint in San Francisco.

On October 7, 2005, Representatives Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) and Michael Castle (R-Del.) introduced

*The first San Francisco Mint, only twenty years old at the time, was torn down in 1875 to make room for the new Treasury building.*

H.R. 1953, a measure calling for the production of commemorative coins to honor the "Granite Lady." With the passage of this measure by the House, the first steps were taken to make the project a reality.

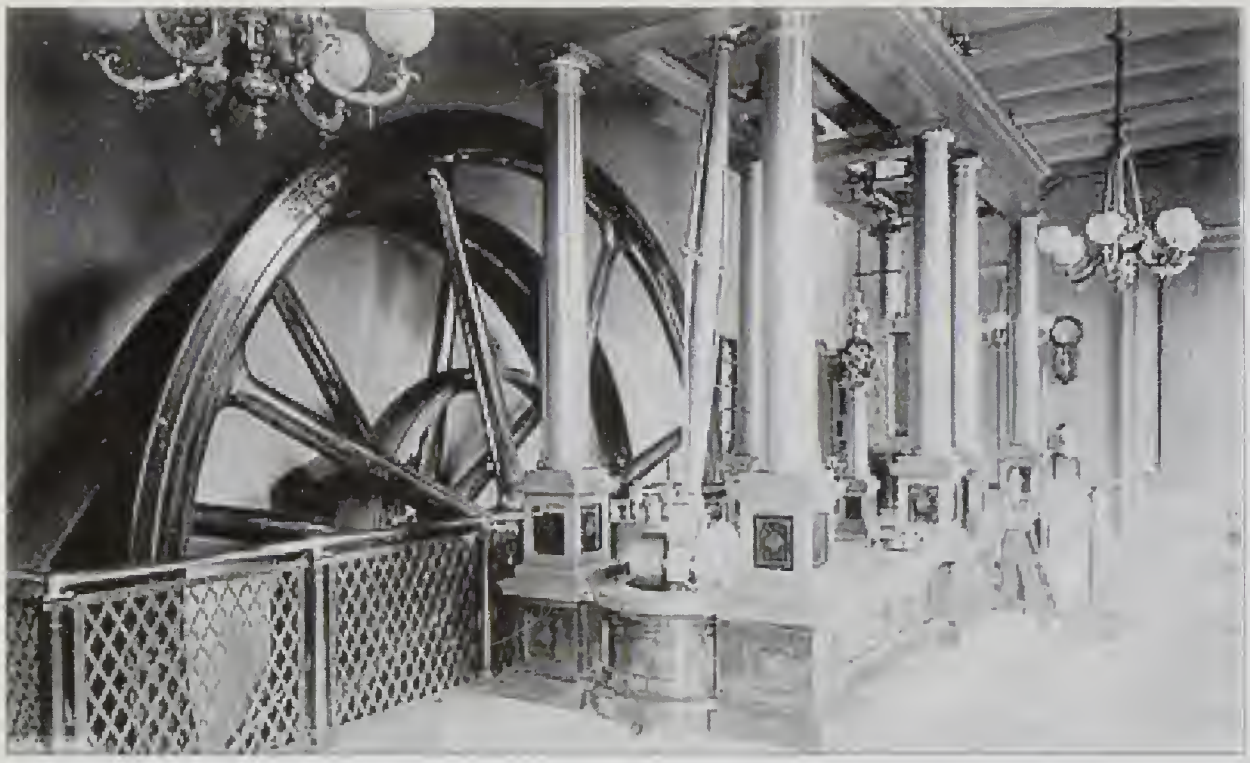
Next, the measure needed the Senate to act on the proposal. On October 18, 2005, Democratic Senators Diane Feinstein and Barbara Boxer from California and John Ensign, Republican from Nevada, introduced Senate Bill S. 1881. This measure has been sent on to the appropriate committee in the Senate, the next step needed in order for this to become a reality. This action marks only the beginning of a process that has been supported by the numismatic community for a number of years. The leader of the supporters of this project is the ANA Governor from California, Don Kagin. He said, "This is one of the first times collectors will be benefiting from a surcharge."

## The "Granite Lady"

The discovery of gold and the resulting steady stream of prospectors and those to support them resulted in the spectacular growth of Sacramento and San Francisco. The ports of these two cities were busy with ships arriving from many parts of the world. By 1850, California became the latest state to be admitted to the Union.

The mines produced large quantities of gold that needed to be assayed and made into coinage. On July 8, 1852, President Millard Fillmore signed legislation authorizing a branch mint to be established in California. Treasury Secretary Thomas Corwin chose San Francisco as the site for this facility. This "first San Francisco Branch Mint" was established at a building owned by Moffett & Company on Commercial Street in the city.

By 1869, a new site located on Fifth and Mission Streets, south of Market Street, was acquired for the new mint building. Architect Alfred B. Mullet was given the task of designing and supervising the construction of the facility. His plans called for columns of a Classical Greek revival, Doric style. Sandstone was shipped in from Newcastle Island in British Columbia for the columns. The basement walls of the building were constructed of Rocklin Granite prompting the name, "The Granite Lady." On May 26,



*An 1882 photo of the engine room of the second San Fransicso Mint.*

1870 the cornerstone of the mint was laid. The building opened on a rainy Saturday, November 5, 1874.

Architect Mullet knew the history of this area was one of frequent earthquakes. With remarkable foresight, he designed the building to withstand these quakes. It is doubtful, however, that he foresaw the gigantic earthquake of April 18, 1906, resulting in the massive destruction and fires that ravaged the city. Like a fortress that withstood a massive bombardment, the Granite Lady remained standing and intact thanks to its loyal employees who stayed with the building following the quake and thanks to its design, construction and water cistern located within the building. Not only was the mint saved, but also $200 million in gold stored in its vaults survived.

The governmental offices along with the commercial center and the banks of San Francisco were all destroyed. The Branch Mint in the center of the city was the only financial institution able to open for business. It became the depository and bank for the relief efforts needed to rebuild the city. San Francisco made a marvelous recovery with much credit due to the Mint.

By 1934, one third of the gold reserve of the United States was stored in the vaults of the San Francisco Mint. Years later, visitors could still see the indentations on the walls of the vaults where the heavy bags of coins had been stored. But the Granite Lady had become obsolete and was no longer needed. Its future was very much in doubt.

## The Granite Lady is Reopened

The new and third San Francisco Mint opened in 1937. For a number of years, the building on Fifth and Mission was utilized by the Treasury Department and other governmental agencies. In 1961 the "Old Mint," as the Granite Lady became known local-

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ly, was designated a National Historic Landmark. By the spring of 1969, the building was declared a government surplus building. The question as to what to do with the building was once again debated.

On January 22, 1970, the Department of Health, Education and Welfare recommended preserving the building for court offices and a museum. It was at this time that Mint Director May Brooks took up the cause to save the "Granite Lady." She quickly managed to transfer the control of the building from the General Services Administration to the Treasury Department. Plans were developed and approved and the restoration was begun. Photographs and records were searched and the original furniture and fixtures were located in storage or, if they could be located, exact replicas were made. Numismatic organizations in California were invited to participate. The California State Numismatic Association played a major role in this endeavor. Led by Bryan Burke and Randy Briggs, not only were funds and workers forthcoming, but many numismatic items were loaned to the mint museum as permanent exhibits.

The numismatic dedication took place on October 14, 1973, with CSNA Past President Bryan Burke acting as master of ceremonies. CSNA artist Barbara Hyde designed a special medal for this occasion. Another milestone was achieved in 1988 when the "Old Mint" was listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

### The Mint is Again Closed

However, as the years passed, problems grew. The cost of keeping the museum open was greater than the income from the sales of mint products and fees from visitors. Continuing dangers from earthquakes and the deterioration of some of the structure of the old mint building made the building unsafe. By 1994 the Treasury Department was forced to plan for the closure of the museum. California Senators Boxer and Feinstein were successful in getting a reprieve; it would remain open until December 30, 1995. The ownership of the building again reverted back to the General Services Administration. The government finally determined that the building would come under the ownership and responsibility of the City of San Francisco, contingent upon the ability of the City to provide funds for its repair and development. In turn, the City decided that plans would be formulated under the San Francisco Historical Society for future use of the facility.

On August 1, 2001, San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown organized the San Francisco Old Mint Task Force. Its job was to develop plans for the restoration and use of the mint building. In January, 2003, the San Francisco Museum and Historical Society's plan to renovate the building and establish a permanent home for a

San Francisco Museum won support from the task force. On August 5, 2003, the U.S. General Services Administration turned over the keys to the old mint building to the City of San Francisco. The Mayor bought the national landmark with a borrowed silver dollar that had been minted in the Granite Lady 124 years earlier. Plans called for the Society to raise $15 million of the total $80 million needed to complete the project.

## Proposed Commemorative Coin Act

The stage was set. What was needed now were funds to carry out the plans for the development of the site. Once again, the idea of striking commemorative coins, first proposed a number of years earlier by ANA Governor Don Kagin, was brought forward. On October 7, 2005, it was announced that 291 sponsors were backing the proposal in the House of Representatives. An almost identical bill, sponsored by Senators Feinstein, Boxer and Ensign (S. 1881) was introduced on October 18th in the Senate.

The bills proposed that gold and silver coins be struck honoring the Granite Lady. As now written, the proposal calls for the striking of no more than 100,000 gold $5 coins and no more than 500,000 silver dollars. In the words of the bill, these coins would be "emblematic of the San Francisco Old Mint Building, its importance to California and the history of the United States, and its role in rebuilding San Francisco after the 1906 earthquake and fire."

The proposal, if approved in its present format, calls for the mint to sell these coins for a period of one year beginning in 2006, the centennial of the earthquake and fire. The designs of these coins would be selected by the Secretary of the U. S. Treasury and then reviewed by the Commission of Fine Arts, the board of the San Francisco Museum and Historical Society, and the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee.

The coins are to be struck in both uncirculated and proof condition and, as much as possible, be struck in San Francisco. They would be sold at prices that included a surcharge—$10 for the silver dollar coin and $35 for the gold coin. These funds would go to the San Francisco Museum and Historical Society for the purpose of funding the numismatic museum of the old San Francisco Mint located on the first floor.

A final version of the bill, as approved by both Houses of Congress, would then be sent to the President for his approval. Although there is much more to be done before the bill is either approved, rejected or just dies from a lack of any action, there is hope that the legislation will become law and the coins will be produced.

*An 1882 Morgan silver dollar struck at the San Francisco Mint.*

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California State Numismatic Association
Attn: Dennis Halladay, Corresponding Secretary
20567 Nathan Drive
Riverside, CA 92508-2931

# *A Visit to the US Mint in San Francisco—2005*

*by James W. Hunt*

A visit to the United States Mint in San Francisco is quite an experience. Before describing the visit, a little history of the facility is in order. The San Francisco Mint has quite a fabulous history going back over 150 years...

When the California Gold Rush began, there was gold available everywhere, but a very limited amount of coin. Gold coin was necessary to pay customs duties and other obligations and was just not available to the public. This led to great agitation to establish a United States Mint in San Francisco. Remember that at that time, the United States issued only gold, silver, and copper coin; no paper currency.

The miners who came to California originally used gold dust as a medium of exchange. This arrangement was not very satisfactory for a variety of reasons. Private firms then entered the breach and produced coins to feed the needs of the local economy and this too, proved to be less than an ideal solution to the problem. In 1850, the Congress of the United States passed legislation to establish a United States Assay Office in San Francisco. The Assay Office was the result of a compromise in Congress between those who wanted a Mint in California and those who wanted a Mint in New York or were opposed the establishment of a new Mint on the West Coast to serve their own political purposes. The U.S. Assay Office was opened and operated by a private firm, Moffat & Co., under contract with the federal government, from 1851 to 1853. After much debate, the United States Mint in San Francisco was established by an Act of Congress in 1852. The facility

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used by the United States Assay Office was enlarged by Moffat & Co. and became the United States Mint. Operations commenced in April of 1854. The Mint's size was never adequate to accommodate the vast amount of gold which was deposited for coinage. Accordingly, a second facility was built to alleviate this problem, and became what is known today as the Old San Francisco Mint located at Fifth & Mission Streets. The "Old San Francisco Mint" opened for business in 1874. This facility was replaced by a fortress-like modern facility which opened for business in 1937. It ceased minting operations in 1955 and reverted to U.S. Assay Office status in 1962.

The coin shortage, a few years later, caused the U.S. Assay Office to resume coining operations in 1965, and Mint status was restored in 1988. Since coining operations resumed, the Mint has produced cents and nickels for circulation, bullion pieces, commemorative coins, and proof sets. At the present time the Mint is producing only the regular and silver proof sets.

The Mint has not been open for tours since 9/11. During the ANA Convention in San Francisco, July 2005, an exception was made, and ANA Officials and convention organizers were given a group tour of the facility. Shortly before their tour started my wife and I commenced a VIP tour of the Mint as guests of the Director of the Mint, Henrietta Holsman Fore, and the Plant Manager, Larry Eckerman.

We left our hotel and walked to Market St. where we boarded a 1930's era PCC streetcar which took us to within a block of the Mint. We walked up hill to the entrance on the periphery of the Mint's property where we told the guard that we had been scheduled for a tour of the Mint. The guard checked his list showing the names of the ANA tour group. We were not on it. He looked at another paper, made a phone call, and asked us to wait for a few minutes. At this point, my wife and I began to realize that our tour was Special. The Plant Manager's Secretary, Lynn Black, soon appeared and escorted us in to the Mint's security area. Here we removed all metallic objects from our persons and proceeded through the screening process. We noted that Mint employees leaving the building went through the same process. Unlike many of the security personnel at airports, the security staff here was pleasant and friendly. After

going through security, Lynn Black escorted us to the Plant Manager's office where he told us about the Mint and showed us a interesting video about the facility.

The Mint is four stories high and has an inner courtyard for building support equipment and other equipment such as fork lifts, etc. The first floor is devoted to packaging, the second to minting, and the third and fourth floors to chemical processing and maintenance equipment. The beautiful lobby, built in the 1930's is still unchanged and in its original condition.

The Mint employs about 278 people. These employees all feel that they are an integral part of the operation and are pleased to be serving the public in this fashion. They are proud to be part of a team producing proof sets for us collectors. The Superintendent, now called "Plant Manager", is a professional employee, not a political appointee. The present Plant Manager, Larry Eckerman, has a background in aerospace manufacturing and has been with the Mint for a number of years. His Secretary, Lynn Black, has 32 years of Mint service. The Security staff is friendly, as well as being thoroughly professional. My wife and I talked to a number of employees as we were escorted around by the Mint's department heads. We were very impressed by the quality of people that work at the Mint, from the Plant Manager on down. After our visit with Mr. Eckerman, we were introduced to the first of his department heads and then began our escorted tour of the Mint. We examined each of the various processes performed to produce our nation's proof sets.

The Mint does blanking from strip obtained from the Philadelphia and Denver Mints. The blanks are annealed at 1500 degrees Fahrenheit and are then milled and burnished before striking. In order to produce the frosted proofs, a tape is put over the die and is then cut away from the surface by hand. This process is done using 47 times magnification. It is very tedious and exacting. The dies are then polished and chrome plated before they are used for striking. The coining presses use a single die and a double strike to coin the proof pieces. The second strike is done by the hammer die while the hammer die is in place on top of the coin. The rate of coinage is only 30 -40 per minute.

Incidentally, the presses were coining the silver version of the California State Commemorative Quarter at the time we were visiting that department. The coins are automatically ejected to trays (rather than being dumped into bins as are the coins intended for circulation). After being coined, a robotic arm selects each coin and puts it automatically into a holder. Mistakes are rejected automatically. When the holder is full, a plastic lid is placed on top of the holder robotically and then sealed. Now, you have your encapsulated proof set ready for packaging. Packaging is also done automatically. The completed packages are sent to another room where they are mechanically sorted into boxes with 50 sets to a box. They are then shipped to Memphis, Tennessee for distribution. The collector products of all the Mints are now shipped from Memphis.

Following our Mint tour, we returned to Mr. Eckerman's office where we were able to discuss our tour and

chat about minting in general. When we left, Lynn Black kindly provided us with wooden nickels and copies of a brochure that was printed at the time of the Mint's 150th Anniversary in 2004.

After the Mint visit, my wife, Ellen, a non-numismatist, commented that it wasn't until about half way through the tour that she began to realize how very special an opportunity we were being afforded. It had been mentioned that the Mint employees were allowed to bring four family members for a Mint visit once every seven years.

I lived in the Bay Area before the Mint ceased operations in 1955 and had always wanted to tour the facility. Fate and circumstance never permitted a tour of the facility at that time. I commented to my wife afterwards that getting this tour had required quite a bit of patience. Needless to say, it was quite a thrill to get a special VIP tour, all of 50 years later.

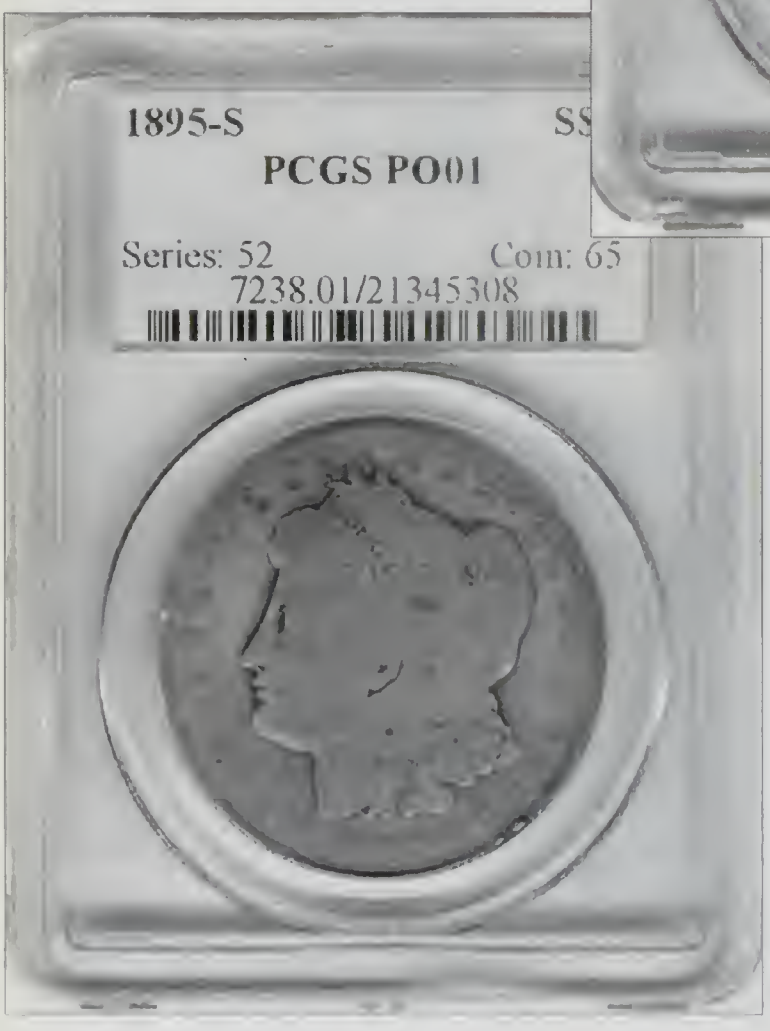
At the ANA Convention, someone questioned how we got a VIP tour and were not included on the ANA group tour. A U.S. Mint staff person later told us that when I had asked for a tour, the Mint Director said, "if Jim wants a tour, make it a VIP tour". This put the frosting on the cake.

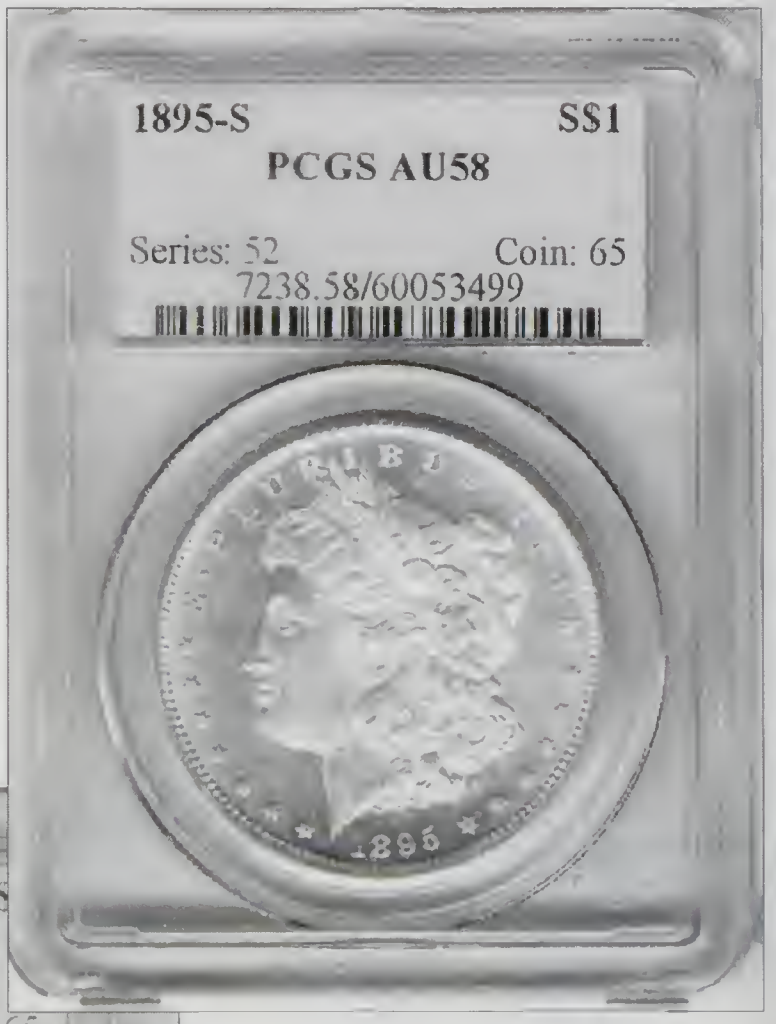
*The mint produces an amazing variety of products especially for collectors. They can be purchased at the gift shops located at the mints in Denver and Philadelphia, as well as on-line at www.usmint.gov.*

# *From 1 to 58*

*by Dennis Halladay*

*Deciding to build a grading set of circulated Morgans seemed innocent at the time...*




*...but turned out to be much more challenging and educational than I ever imagined!*

Like most collectors who have ever completed a set, I did not expect that the last coin would bring with it an unexpected range of emotions.

Happiness, pride, and satisfaction were understandable. Sadness and emptyness were not. After nine years, the long-anticipated thrill of "Yay, I'm finally finished!" was strangely muted by the disappointment of "Darn, I'm done."

Going to shows, looking at coins, and making new friends had become far too much fun. Even though my collection was complete, I wasn't ready to stop. I needed a new challenge to keep me busy. But what?

While assembling a certified, mostly Mint State Morgan set, I rarely looked at circulated coins and almost never at low-end ones. As a result, my circulated grading skills were awful. Still, I was determined to learn. But since I had no desire to build another full collection, a circulated Sheldon Scale grading set consisting of all grades from Poor-01 to AU58 seemed the ideal answer.

"That sounds like fun," I thought. "But maybe it would be more challenging if the set consisted of just one date... and if they were all certified by just one third part grader (TPG)... and if it was a date that is meaningful in every grade."

Reality immediately reared its head and hissed that 1893-S would be financial suicide, and 1889-CC and 1894-P would be close. That left several excellent choices, but the easy one was my favorite Mint and a magical year in the Morgan series: 1895-S.

I can still remember thinking at the time, "All I need is 19 coins; I hope this won't be too fast or too easy."

Four years and five months later, with the final coin in hand at last, I have a one word answer to that oh-so naive concern: Ha!!!

Assembling a grading set turned out to be a challenge that far exceeded anything I ever imagined. Searching for "just 19 coins" also proved to be easily the most educational numismatic experience I've ever had.

My learning curve was close to vertical at the beginning and stayed steep nearly all of the way. Each new coin taught lessons and prompted questions. Assumptions were replaced by insight. Original, problem-free surfaces became things of great beauty. I quietly said a heartfelt thank you to everyone who ever carried a pocket piece.

Once my quest began, high hopes and assumptions quickly gave way to cold reality. For instance, I thought that by choosing a semi-key date I would be able to buy coins already certified. This was a good theory in AU and XF grades, but in lower grades it was mostly wishful thinking.

Cold reality #2 was the popularity of 1895-S Morgans in lower grades. I'd never noticed it before, but there are never very many for sale at any given time. And when they are offered, they don't last long.

The scarcity of lower grade coins in holders forced me into the "sink or swim" deep end of the learning pool: buying raw coins and having them graded. Looking back now, I have to admit it was the best way to learn.

Early on, I purposely bought three attractive raw coins that I felt were much different grades, then bought nothing while I waited for them to be graded.

The results (they were all different!) helped me see the basic differences between Good, Very Good and Very Fine, and gave solid reference points in learning the more subtle distinctions between each specific grade. More importantly, they served as invaluable and illuminating yardsticks of how rampant overgrading is in the raw coin world.

Like anyone who has ever sent in coins for third party grading, I was disappointed when coins came back lower than I expected. But as perhaps only those who have built a grading set can appreciate, I was also disappointed when coins came back higher than I wanted. Crossing over coins from other firms to my TPG of choice proved to be an effective strategy—once I learned to expect a one-grade loss in the process.

In the end, here's the breakdown of where each coin in my grading set came from:

Coins bought already in my holder of choice (6) - 01, 12, 40, 45, 55, 58.

Coins crossed over from other TPGs at the same grade (3) - 04, 50, 53.

Coins crossed one grade lower (4) - 15, 20, 25, 30.

Coins purchased raw and sent in for grading (6) - 02, 03, 06, 08, 10, 35.

The prize of the entire set is, without question, the Poor-01. It is the only 1895-S so graded by PCGS and is a coin I never imagined existed, let alone hoped to find. It will be a favorite for as long as I collect.

The enjoyment gained from building the set almost matches the education I received. It is knowledge well worth the "tuition" I paid in buying the coins.

Which brings me to an epilogue for this story. From the time I started the set—and thank heavens I bought most of the higher grades first—retail prices for circulated 1895-S Morgans are up 50% to 100% or more across the board. No, I didn't have the insight to see this coming. But at least now I think it's safe to tell my wife what some of the coins cost.

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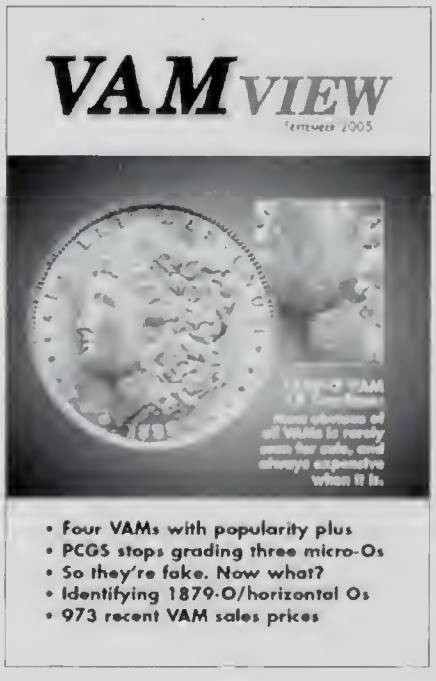

VAM VIEW
• Four VAMs with popularity plus
• PCGS stops grading three micro-Os
• So they're fake. Now what?
• Identifying 1879-O/horizontal Os
• 973 recent VAM sales prices

**New Publication for VAM Enthusiasts!**

Dennis Halladay, along with Tim Cannard and Logan McKechnie, has kicked off a quarterly publication called VAMview, a journal that will focus on the Leroy C. Van Allen and A. George Mallis (VAM) listed varieties of Morgan and Peace dollars.

The inaugural September 2005 issue contained 36 pages, with four instructional articles, recent price information on VAMs, along with a pricing editorial. If you're into VAMs it looks like this publication is a "must have."

E-mailed PDF subscriptions to VAMview are $12 per year (four issues). Further info can be had by e-mail to the publishers at VAMview@aol.com.

# *2006 Nickel Displays Monticello Again (Yawn)...*

...but at least Jefferson has a bold new look!

The obverse of the 2006 nickel depicts a portrait of Thomas Jefferson completed during the year in which he was elected our Nation's third President.

The United States Mint's Artistic Infusion Program Master Designer Jamie Franki of Concord, North Carolina, designed the obverse, using as his inspiration the first Rembrandt Peale life study of Jefferson, done in 1800.

The reverse of the 2006 nickel features the classic, familiar rendition of Monticello, President Thomas Jefferson's Virginia home, originally executed by artist Felix Schlag and first chosen to adorn the coin's reverse in 1938. (Nudge me if it looks like I'm falling asleep.)

Jefferson designed Monticello himself, and construction began in 1768 when he was 25 years old. It was completed in 1823 when the former President and founding father was in his eightieth year. A skilled horticulturalist, Jefferson also planned the smallest details of the landscaping at Monticello.

However, the 2006 reverse design is crisper and more detailed than Americans have seen it in recent years, having been carefully restored by the United States Mint, guided by Schlag's original work. Among the changes made are:

- Facets of the dome of Monticello have been restored.
- The balconies of the building have been reworked.
- Relief has been restored to the detail around the door and windows to reflect more of Felix Schlag's original work.

# *They're "Popping" Up All Over*

Ever hear of a coin maze? No? Well, how about a corn maze? These agricultural oddities are a popular autumnal pastime for many. The six acre field above, owned and operated by growers John Gandolfo and Dan Marciel, is located in Livermore, California (near San Francisco), and was featured on the David Letterman Show.

The G&M Farms Pumpkin Patch and Corn Maze was open only during October. They feature a country store, pumpkin patch, corn and straw bale mazes, farm animals, pony rides, a produce stand, and what else...a corn maze. I wonder if they give a discount if you pay all in California quarters?

California quarter concept designer, Garret Burke, commented, "It may be a bit corny, but the CA State Quarter once again leaves it mark on the land."

# *Here They Come, The 2006 Lineup...*

**Nevada, "The Silver State"**

Features a trio of wild stallions, snow-capped mountains, and the sun.

**Nebraska, "Chimney Rock"**

Depicts an ox-drawn covered wagon carrying pioneers in the foreground and Chimney Rock in the background.

**Colorado, "Colorful Colorado"**

Depicts the state's rugged Rocky Mountains with evergreen trees and a banner carrying the inscription "Colorful Colorado."

**North Dakota, "Badlands with Bison"**

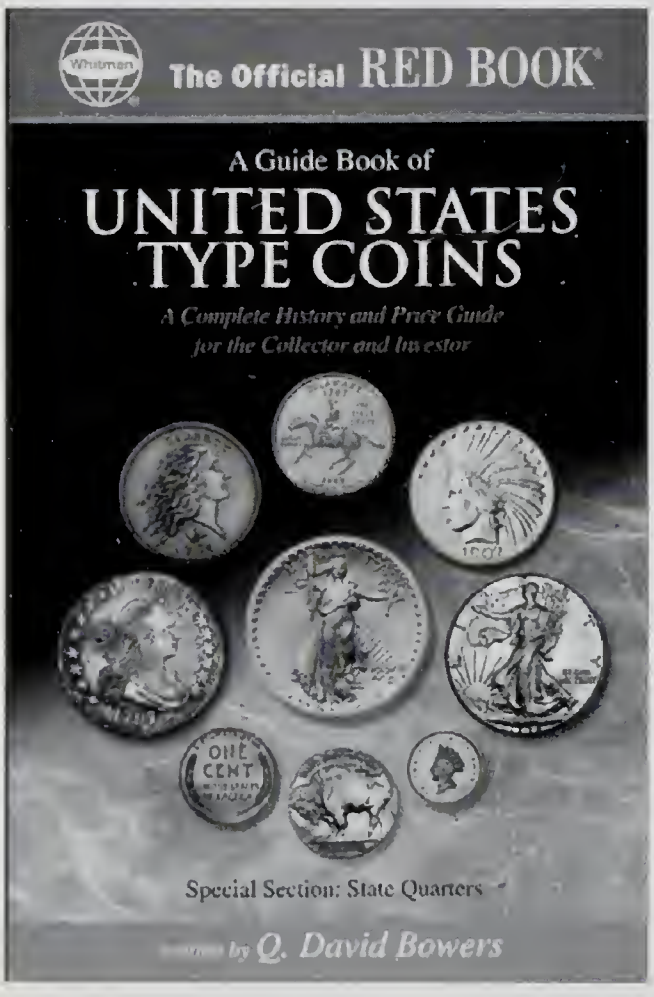
Features a pair of grazing American bison in the foreground and a sunset view of the rugged buttes and canyons that symbolize the state's Badlands region.

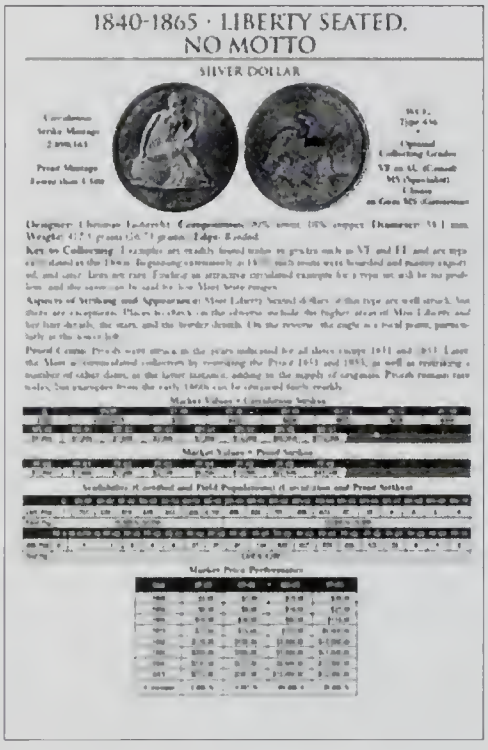
**South Dakota, "Mount Rushmore and Pheasant"**

Featurs the state bird, the Chinese ring-necked pheasant in flight above the Mount Rushmore National Memorial.

# *The Book Report*

*by Mark Watson*




Book Reviewed: *A Guide Book of United States Type Coins*
*by Q. David Bowers*

For years, if a coin collector talked about something he saw in the *Red Book*, other coin collectors would understand what book he was talking about. That will be changing though over the next couple of years as Whitman Publishing prints more and more *Red Books*, the designation they have given to a series of books on coins and paper money. With topics ranging from silver dollars to Indian Head cents to paper money, they are written by experts in the field, with the prolific writer Q. David Bowers having the honors for this volume on type coins.

This 287 page book starts off with a general overview of the history of United States coinage, highly appropriate given the subject. Mr. Bowers chronologically goes through the

various factors that affected coinage. Beginning first with the use of foreign coins in the then-fledgling colonies, he goes on to talk about colonial coinage along with the first federal coinage.

Then, he discusses the founding of the Mint in 1792, and the subsequent coinage in 1793, 1794, and other periods up to 1806. At that point, he begins grouping the history based on the periods of the chief engravers, a position that wielded a lot of influence over what the country's coinage would look like. Beginning with John Reich, Mr. Bowers also writes about Christian Gobrecht's, James Barton Longacre's, and William Barber's time in the office. At that point, the discussion shifts to how political decisions begin to affect the designs, beginning with President Theodore Roosevelt's direct intervention on the redesign of the country's gold coinage, and his selection of Augustus Saint-Gaudens as the designer. As well as talking about coins, Mr. Bowers, throughout the section, interweaves the history of coin collecting in the country, talking about the main dealers of the various eras, along with how the hobby matured.

After that, the next few chapters go through various aspects of collecting type coins such as the various sets that a type collector could choose from. The author then gives some tips about buying coins, the market conditions that could influence a purchase, and grading guides. Then just before entering the bulk of the book, the individual series, there is a chapter describing the set up of the book, standardized in the *Red Book* series, along with a discussion of the *Whitman Coin Guide*, an all inclusive table at the end of each section giving market values, population report information, and historical pricing information.

The rest of the book covers all the U.S. coin series that have been minted, starting with the 1793 half cent and finishing with the St. Gaudens $20 gold piece. For each denomination, the author gives a quick overview along with his opinion of what a type set consists of. Additionally, there is a brief discussion about going beyond a type set if a collector would like to go more in-depth into the series. Then for each coin in that denomination, the book has a one page write-up about the coin. This includes a color photograph of the coin along with technical information such as the designer, composition, and diameter. That is followed by the keys to collecting this coin telling a collector what to look for in the various dates along with availability of the coin in various grades. Finally, the author talks about strike and appearance, as a type collector should strive for the best example he can afford in any given series.

Overall, the book is a good fit into a collector's library. The color photographs of the coins are top notch. Additionally, the book is set up in an easy to use format, and is easy on the eyes as well due to the effective use of color throughout the book, something usually not found in numismatic books. All the coin series are covered though it must be noted that the American Eagle bullion coins are not included in the book. At this point, it looks like Whitman Publishing has done a service to the coin collector, and these new *Red Books* should start showing up in everyone's library soon.

# *ANA Report*

*by Mike Stanley*
*ANA Representative for the CSNA*

The annual American Numismatic Association's World's Fare of Money was held at the Moscone West Convention Center in San Francisco this past July. San Jose Coin Club was the host club. Ken Barr was the general show chairman. His staff was very visible in the registration area greeting and directing the public. Attendance was swift and because the show occupied two floors of the Convention Center some attendees were confused thinking that the show was only on one level. It was this staff that directed them to all facets of the show. NASC President Don Foster and his wife Terry were co-chairmen for the exhibits and did an excellent job. The five day event included a trip to Alcatraz, a friendship luncheon at Fisherman's Wharf, and a walking numismatic tour that included the old San Francisco Mint and the Wells Fargo Museum. The Numismatic Theater presentations were held in two different theaters. Chairman Michael S. Turrini and benefactor James H. Laird presented the speakers with certificates and commemorative coasters.

## ANA Summer Seminar

This year's ANA Summer Seminar was held in Colorado Springs at the Colorado College and ANA headquarters, This year's event was a complete sellout. This seminar is highly recommended. For more information contact the ANA educational department at ANA headquarters.

## ANA National Money Show

The ANA National Money Show will take place from April 7-9, 2006, at the Cobb Galleria Centre in Atlanta,

*Summer Seminar is an opportunity for numismatic scholarship and camaraderie, offering students a wide and varied selection of week-long courses suited for anyone, from the curious beginner to the most advanced numismatist. Go to the association's Web site at www.money.org for more info.*

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Georgia. Host clubs include the Georgia Numismatic Association and the Metropolitan Coin Club of Atlanta.

### ANA Anniversary Convention

The annual World's Fair of Money will be held at the Colorado Convention Center in Denver, Co. August 16-19, 2006. Host club is the Denver Coin Club. This show will include a member appreciation day on August 20, 2006, at ANA Headquarters. For more information e-mail convention @money.org.

### Election

The votes are in and the winners are President William H. Horton Jr.; Vice President Barry Stuppler; Board of Governors: M. Remy Bourne, Michael S. Fey, Patricia (Jagger) Finner, Alan Herbert, Donald H. Kagin, Prue Fitts, and Dr Walter A. Ostromecki Jr. On October 14th the board voted to remove Ostromecki due to a breach of confidentiality, and he was replaced by Brian E. Fanton.

My thanks to Dr. Thomas F. Fitzgerald, my predecessor who has gladly handed this column over to me. His will be a hard act to follow.

*The Cobb Galleria Centre in Atlanta, Georgia.*

*The Colorado Convention Center in Denver, Colorado.*

# *CSNA 38th Annual Southern Educational Symposium*

*10:00am - 4:00pm, Saturday, March 11, 2006*
*Wyndham Hotel (formerly named Anaheim Park Hotel)*
*222 W. Houston Ave., Fullerton, CA*

There will be four presentations by noted numismatists followed by a question and answer period. There will be an opportunity to interact with our speakers at a no host luncheon at the hotel. The Symposium will also feature exhibits, young numismatists recognition, and a patron raffle which features a gold coin as the prize.

*Speakers:*

| | |
|---|---|
| *Gary Beedon* | Bust Half Dollars |
| *Bill Grant* | Charles A. Lindbergh |
| *David Lisot* | Classic Crowns of the World |
| *Andrew Woodruff* | California National Bank Notes |

Free admission, free parking, free luncheon for Young Numismatists (under 18—courtesy of the NASC)

For further information please contact: Jim Hunt, CSNA Director of Education at 1183 Nile Ave., Chula Vista, CA 91911 or by e-mail at eandjonthenile@cox.net.

**Take the Harbor off-ramp from the 91 freeway. The Wyndham Hotel is about 1 mile west of the Sheraton Four Points Hotel where the event was held in March 2004.**

## Symposium Luncheon Order Form

**The Deli:** honey-baked ham, roast beef, sliced turkey, American and Swiss cheeses, lettuce and tomato slices with shallot vinaigrette on a hoagie roll. Served with rolini pasta salad.

**Meal includes your choice of regular or decaf coffee, iced or hot tea, and apple pie for dessert.**

Name:_____

Number of total lunches_____ X $18 = _____

Mail with check payable to CSNA to:
Joyce Kuntz, 697 Scripps Dr., Claremont, CA 91711
Note: lunch may be ordered the day of the symposium up until 10 a.m.

# *CSNA 118th Semi-Annual Convention—San Jose*

The CSNA 118th Semi-Annual Convention will be held in conjunction with the San Jose Coin Club's 38th Annual Coin, Stamp & Collectibles Show. The festivities will again be held at Parkside Hall, 180 Park Ave., next to the Tech Museum in Downtown San Jose. Approximately 150 coin and stamp dealers are expected, so there should be LOTS of coins to choose from. Show activities include a treasure hunt for the kids on Saturday, plus meetings and speakers from various numismatic organizations. The Convention banquet will again be held at Original Joe's, one of San Jose's landmark restaurants. The owner assured us that the Salmon Sushi Surprise would not be served this year. Plan to attend, as it will be a lot of fun. If you wish to take a break from the show, the Tech Muesum, Children's Discovery Museum, the Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum, and the Center for Performing Arts are all nearby. See you in San Jose!

**Exhibits**: Exhibit applications are available from the San Jose Coin Club website www.sanjoseclub.org or from Joel Anderson: (805) 489-8045, joel@joelscoins.com.

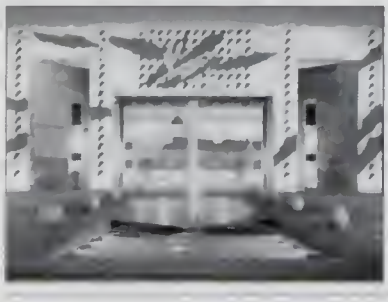
**Bourse**: Contact John Sarti, SJCC Box 5621 San Jose, CA 95150, (408) 910-7654, wheatcoinman@yahoo.com or visit SJCC web site www.sanjoseclub.org.

**Hotels**: Convention Host Hotel: Crowne Plaza Holiday Inn, 282 Almaden Blvd. Next to Parkside Hall. *Book early* and ask for the special Coin Show rate of $79 plus $9 for parking. There may also be lower AAA or other rates. 1-800-227-6963 or 408 998-0400. You can also try...

Hilton Hotel (across street from Convention Center) 1-800-445-8667 or 408-287-2100
Fairmont Hotel (1 block) 170 S. Market St. 1-800-441-1414
Ramada Inn: (2 blocks) 455 S Second St. 1-800-350-1113
Motel 6 (3 miles) 2081 N. First near US 101, 408-436-8180

**Parking**: Expensive parking is available next to the convention at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Parking is also available across the street beneath the McHenry convention Center (Enter on Almaden) or beneath the Hilton Hotel. $5 all day parking is available in the open-air lot at 401 Almaden, about 2 blocks from the convention.

**Transit**: The San Jose Trolley (Light Rail) stops next to the Convention Center.



# *Preliminary Schedule of Events*

## *CSNA Convention—San Jose*

**Thursday Jan. 12 Dealer/Exhibitor Setup 2:00pm - 7:00pm**

**Friday Jan. 13 Dealer/Exhibitor Setup 8:00am - 10:00am**
**Show Hours: 10:00am - 6:00pm**

**Saturday Jan. 14 Dealer/Exhibitor Setup 8:00am**
**Show Hours: 10:00am - 6:00pm**

8:30am ..... CSNA Open Board Meeting
11:00am - 3:00pm..... Baja Treasure Hunt for Youth
11:00am ..... CONECA Meeting
1:00pm ..... California Exonumists Society meeting
Speaker: Pending info
3:00pm ..... CSNA Educational Forum
Speaker: Phil Iversen on "Lewis and Clark: Sighting the Pacific."
6:00pm ..... CSNA Convention Banquet and Awards
Original Joe's, 301 S. First St.
6:00 PM No host cocktails
6:30 PM Dinner & Program

**Sunday Jan. 15 Show Hours 10:00am - 4:00pm**

8:00am CSNA President's Breakfast
3:00pm San Jose Coin Club Exhibits Awards
3:30pm San Jose Coin Club Gold Coin Raffle Drawing

# *CSNA 118th Convention Medal Design by Joel Anderson and Michael Turrini*

## 100th Anniversary of the San Francisco Earthquake & Fire

Early in the morning of Wednesday, April 18, 1906, the City of San Francisco was awakened by a huge earthquake. Buildings collapsed and water mains were destroyed, leaving the city virtually defenseless against fires that broke out across the city. Dedicated employees of the San Francisco Mint made their way through the smoke and rubble to report to their post in order to protect the mint against the oncoming flames and potential looters. For three days the flames ravished San Francisco. When it was done the "Granite Lady" stood virtually unharmed amid the rubble of the city.

The city had an immediate need for money to begin the rebuilding, yet most of the records and funds of the cities banks were either destroyed or inaccessible in the still smoldering ruins. The mint immediately opened it doors, and using an improvised system, began to provide financial liquidity to the beleaguered City, allowing the banks to pay their depositors, make loans to begin rebuilding, and head off a financial panic.

The Granite Lady served as the San Francisco Mint until 1937, when minting was moved to a larger and more modern facility within the city. For many it served both as government offices and a museum. It is one of the few buildings in the city to survive both the 1906 Earthquake and Fire and the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake, yet it was closed in 1989 because it failed to meet current government earthquake standards. The San Francisco Museum and Historical Society is now attempting to restore the building and bring it up to current standards so that it can again serve as a museum. The Society welcomes contributions towards this endeavor. For more information contact the Society at (415) 775-1111 or oldmint@sfhistory.org.

The CSNA 118th convention medal commemorates the 100th Anniversary of the San Francisco Earthquake and Fire. The medal, designed by Joel Anderson and Michael S. Turrini, features the old San Francisco Mint, known as The Granite Lady, still standing following the earthquake, amongst the flames and destruction.

*Didja know?... The area around the Mint became a refugee villiage because Supt. Leach installed two pipes from the Mint's artisian well after the fire to provide fresh water to the homeless.*

## CSNA 118th Convention Medal Order Form

| Item | Cost | | Quantity | | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Silver | 20.00 | X | _____ | = | _____ |
| Golden Bronze | 3.00 | X | _____ | = | _____ |
| Oxidized Bronze | 4.00 | X | _____ | = | _____ |
| Three Metal Set | 25.00 | X | _____ | = | _____ |
| Postage: | .60 for 1<br>.80 for 2<br>1.10 for sets | | Postage | | _____ |
| | | | Total Order | | _____ |

*Make checks payable to CSNA and mail with order to:*
Joyce Kuntz, Medals Coordinator, 697 Scripps Drive, Claremont, CA 91711-2640
gleemedals@yahoo.com, (909) 621-2196

Name:_____

City, ST, Zip_____

# *CSNA Convention Banquet*

The CSNA 118th Convention Banquet will be held at Original Joe's on Saturday January 14. No host cocktails begin at 6:00 p.m. and the sit-down dinner and program is at 6:30 p.m.. Original Joe's is located about two blocks from the convention center at 301 S. First St. It is one of San Jose's oldest and most popular restaurants and is famous for its home style Italian cooking and salmon sushi (I couldn't resist). Each banquet ticket is printed on actual foreign currency making it a collectible item in itself. The first 50 people reserving space at the banquet will also get a limited edition aluminum off-metal strike of the convention medal. It promises to be an evening of delicious food, fun and fellowship that will include some unique entertainment.

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Please reserve banquet tickets with the following entrees:

____ Veal Scallopini with Mushrooms ____ Chicken Sec with Mushrooms

____ Salmon in Lemon Butter Sauce ____ Halibut in Lemon Butter Sauce
(Vegetarian or Child's entrée available on request.)
Dinner includes salad, pasta, entrée with vegetables and dessert.
Payment of $_____ enclosed for _____ banquet tickets at $36 each.
NAME _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY - ZIP: _____
Make checks payable to CSNA Unless otherwise requested, your tickets will be available for pickup at the CSNA table at the Convention.
Send to: Joel Anderson, Box 365, Grover Beach, CA 93483 805-489-8045

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

CSNA CONVENTION PATRON
You may become a patron for a tax-deductible donation of $10 or more to the CSNA convention fund. Patrons will be acknowledged in the banquet program.

Yes, sign me up as a CSNA Convention Patron!
My donation of $_____ is enclosed. (Make checks payable to CSNA)
NAME _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY - ZIP: _____
( ) In Memory of: ( ) In Honor of: _____
Send to: Joel Anderson, Box 365, Grover Beach, CA 93483 805-489-8045

# *Northern California Educational Symposium - Vallejo's First!*

On October 29 the Vallejo Numismatic Society (VMS) hosted the event at the Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum. This gorgeous facility, once Vallejo's city hall, was especially well-suited for the event, with sumptuous furnishings, cushy auditorium seating, and fascinating exhibits on the city's history, focusing much on the naval aspect. In fact, did you know that Vallejo was once the capitol of California? And not just once, but twice? I didn't. Amazing what you can learn when you wander around a museum.

Coordinating the northern event this year on behalf of CSNA Director of Education Jim Hunt was Michael "Stan" Turrini, who performs so many volunteer functions throughout the state. Congratulations on their good work to both Jim and Stan. The change of venue (from the location held in San Francisco for several years previous to this) was successful and the event was well attended, especially considering the difficulty of getting folks to attend at a new location.

Starting off the symposium, Robert E. Sathers spoke first on the Norse-American Centennial medals and memorabilia. Robert brought along and displayed many of the medal varieties and associated memorabilia from his Norwegian heritage.

Next, Phil Iversen went over a marvelously detailed history of the Ringling Brothers circus and had an extensive and impressive slide show displaying many of the associated collectibles he's acquired over the years.

*From left: event coordinator Michael Turrini, CSNA President Lila Anderson, speakers O. L. Wallis, Paul Johnson, Phil Iversen, and Robert Sathers, event moderator Harry Davis, and facility director Jim Kern.*

*Coming up the stairs to the second floor of the museum is an experience in itself. The prow of a ship looms overhead and at the top is a periscope that extends up through the roof of the building enabling you to look around the entire city.*

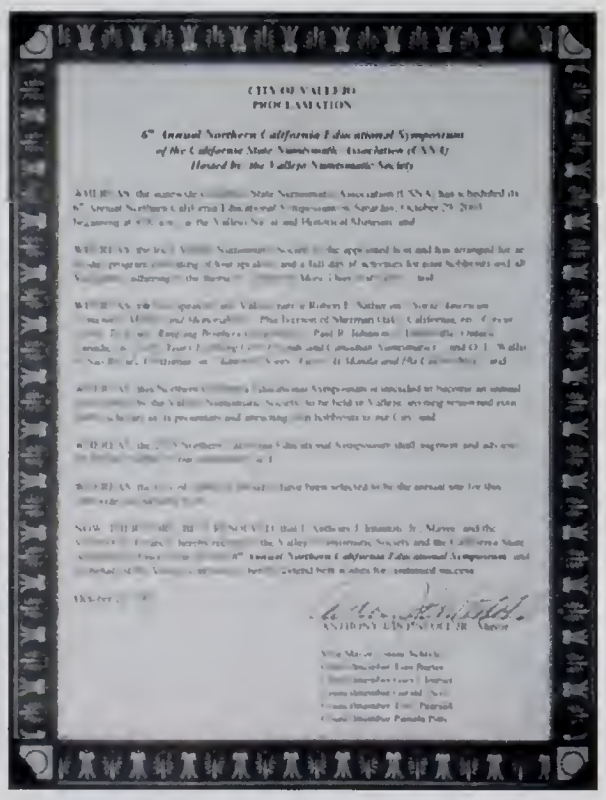
*Robert Bellean and Irene Carillo (both seated) were helping folks register for the symposium. A smile and a handful of give-a-ways and you were free to explore the museum (so long as you had the foresight to arrive early and leave time for poking around).*

*There were marvelous displays in every room. Jim Kern who oversees the museum stated that because of the abundance of material they have, they rotate the displays frequently. The museum also has an extensive library.*

Paul R. Johnson, hailing from amoung our associates in the the Great White North, "extolled (forty years of) coin friends and Canadian numismatics."

Wrapping up the lecture portion of the event was O. L. Wallis, speaking on Admiral Dewey and the many collectibles featuring his image.

The event for 2006 should be held in the same place. The specific date is still only tentatively scheduled for October 28, and it's possible it may be held a bit earlier in the month, or perhaps later in November. We'll pass along the final date once it is determined—stay tuned!

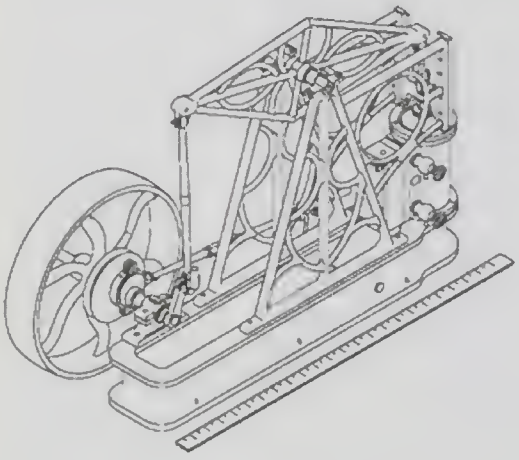


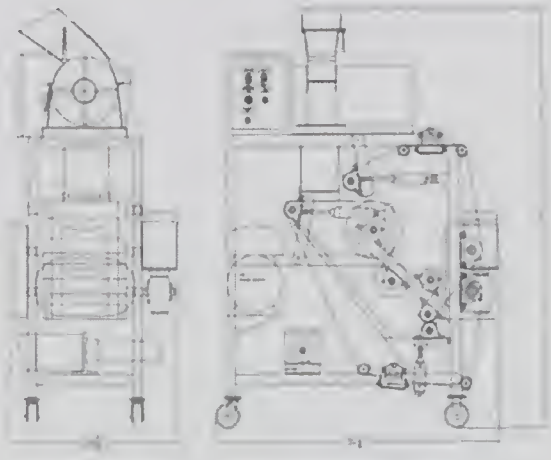
CITY OF VALLEJO
PROCLAMATION

*6th Annual Northern California Educational Symposium*
*of the California State Numismatic Association (CSNA)*
*Hosted by the Vallejo Numismatic Society*

*Vallejo Vice Mayor Joanne Schivley presented the CSNA with a proclamation from Mayor Anthony Intintoli wishing for the continued success of our educational symposiums in the future. We were all made to feel quite welcome in Vallejo and at the museum.*

# *Where Do I Get One?*





Despite its recent slang connotations, "bogus" has actually been a part of the English language since the early 1800s. Not only was the word coined then, it was actually doing some coining of its own, so to speak. Back then, a "bogus" was a machine used to make counterfeit coins. No one knows for sure how this coin-copying contraption got its name, but before long "bogus" had also become a popular noun for funny money itself or for a fraudulent imitation of any kind. The more general "phony" adjective followed shortly thereafter. Perhaps due to the word's appearance in a number of quotable motion pictures, "bogus" earned momentary popularity among younger speakers as a term for expressing disapproval.

*—Mirriam Webster*

# *700 lbs. of Money at Babson College*

Wellesley, Mass...JSG (just some guy) Boggs, known as the "Money Artist", unveiled his digital artwork entitled, All The World Is A Stage, at Babson College March 26th, 2004.

The massive 12' X 22' archival panel weighs over 700 pounds and took five people and a hydraulic lift to move into its final resting place at Babson's College.

Boggs has built his considerable reputation taking U.S. and foreign currencies as an iconographic foundation. The uncanny aesthetic authenticity of his "Boggs bills" has delighted museum audiences, while at the same time disconcerting treasury officials worldwide.

# *New Book Out!*

(Irvine, California) – "It is genuine. Congratulations. God bless you."

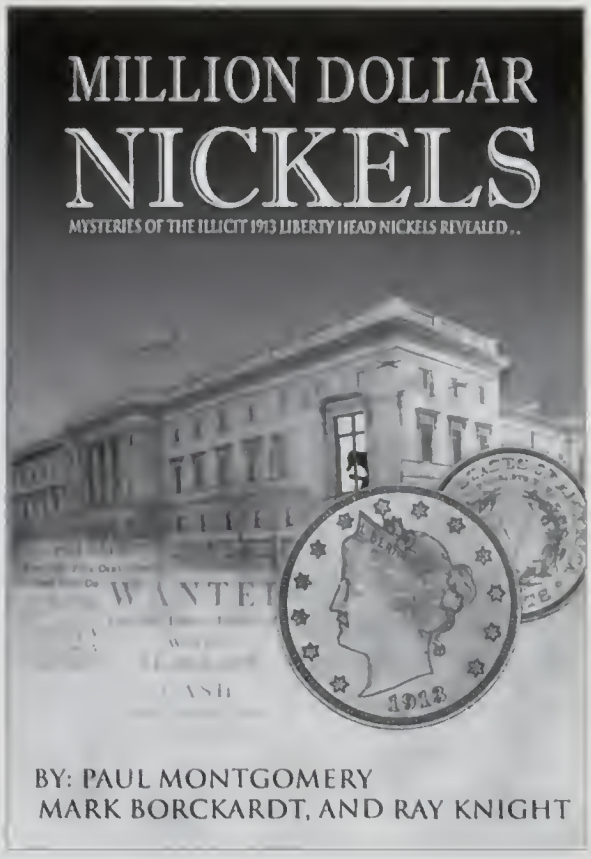
As recounted in an informative new book, that's how Paul Montgomery calmly told heirs of coin dealer, George O. Walton, that their 1913 Liberty Head nickel was, indeed, authentic and the long-missing fifth specimen.

His simple words on Wednesday, July 30, 2003, in Baltimore, Maryland climaxed a long day of eager anticipation, culminated a three-month news media frenzy and worldwide search for the fabled coin, and happily solved a 41-year old mystery about its puzzling whereabouts.

The amazing story of the Walton nickel and its four companion pieces is described in Million Dollar Nickels: Mysteries of the Illicit 1913 Liberty Nickels Revealed, written by Montgomery, Mark Borckardt and Ray Knight. The book recounts how well-known California numismatists, David Hall and Fred Weinberg, were part of the team that authenticated the Walton coin.

One of America's foremost numismatic treasures, the legendary nickel had been kept in a plain manila envelope in a Virginia closet for 41 years after Walton's death in a 1962 car crash because his heirs were mistakenly told the coin he obtained in 1948 was a fake.

The new book publicly reveals for the first time how an astonishing clockwork of 16 different events led from the coin's subtle 1962 disappearance to the thunderous 2003 public


MILLION DOLLAR
NICKELS
MYSTERIES OF THE ILLICIT 1913 LIBERTY HEAD NICKELS REVEALED...
BY: PAUL MONTGOMERY
MARK BORCKARDT, AND RAY KNIGHT

reappearance after it was brought to the ANA Baltimore convention and authenticated in a midnight meeting by a team of experts from Professional Coin Grading Service.

Montgomery touched off a news media frenzy in May 2003 when an Associated Press story reported he was offering a reward of at least $1 million for the missing fifth specimen, and a payment of $10,000 just to be the first to see it. In the weeks that followed, he and his staff received nearly 10,000 phone calls, letters, e-mails and faxes from people claiming to either have the coin or a similar one.

Copies of *Million Dollar Nickels: Mysteries of the Illicit 1913 Liberty Nickels Revealed* are available at bookstores nationwide, or can be purchased for $26.95 each (plus $5.95 shipping) from Zyrus Press, Inc., P.O. Box 17810, Irvine, California 92623. Phone: (888) 622-7823. Web: www.zyruspress.com E-mail: info@zyruspress.com.

# *Going's On*

*by Greg Burns*

Greetings, gentle readers. I'll have to keep this column brief, not because there isn't a lot going on, but simply because I missed the NASC board meeting in October. I was eager to go, but unfortunately it was held the same weekend as the Northern Educational Symposium and I felt I could best support our two organizations by attending there. So instead of summarizing notes that I would have taken had I gone, I'll be paraphrasing selected portions of Recording Secretary Albertus Hoogeveen's minutes. CSNA only meets twice a year, so there really hasn't been anything specific to that group since the last board meeting reported in our last issue.

There was plenty of discussion on membership matters when Corresponding Secretary Harold Katzman gave his report. The board approved several issues, including one that will convert all 50 year regular members over to sustaining members, a change that will affect about a half dozen members here in the next couple of years. Good news for them!

The previous minutes from the August 28 meeting were approved as written—good job, Albertus! (I always admire what Albertus does for the NASC and Ginnie Bourke for the CSNA; it's so hard to follow all the things that are said and go on in these meetings, and these two have to keep a written record—tough work!)

Treasurer Kay Lenker reported that the NASC had quarterly income of $2,265.26 and expenses of $2,136.66—that's good news in my book. Assets total a princely $40,193.11... not enough to get me into one of the Jaguar XJ models I so dearly love, but perhaps CSNA could kick in twenty grand or so.

Anne Morrow in Sidney, Ohio, discovered an NASC coin purse, one of the give-aways from the 16th convention (1971), in a thrift shop where she works. Puzzled by the word *Numismatic* in the association's name on the back of the purse, Anne did a little Internet research (good for her) to see what this was all about. Kindly Anne then found CSNA's Ruth Phillips' e-mail address on-line and a message was finally routed to NASC President Don Foster. The short story is that this neat piece of wandering memorabilia now resides with Historian Nona Moore. Thanks so much for the persistance and the donation, Anne, I guess the advertising on that little item really worked!

Gary Beedon reported that the awards luncheon would be going back to a previous location: Coco's in Arcadia. Dr. Sol Taylor will be the master of ceremonies. Apparently there will be some separate NASC literary awards presented at that function, so keep watch for more news on that front. See elsewhere in this issue for menu, pricing, and other info for the luncheon. Send your reservation in early to be sure a seat, as well as some

Contributor to Yeoman's Redbook Since 1978
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tasty food, is reserved for you. By the time of this event the other awards (being coordinated by Joyce Kuntz) will also be determined, so expect some interesting presentations.

Because of the NASC elections now going on, there was some dialog on the logistics of balloting. Part of the complication was that Nona Moore, chair of the Election Committee, is also a candidate. Guess we'll see the outcome in the next issue. Good luck to all of those in the running.

Roy Iwata, who ran the Gold Benefit Drawing at the Golden State Coin Show (GSCS), stated that this effort squeezed out a $73.39 profit. Remember that half of the funds generated by this go directly to the NASC member clubs, and their share probably amounted to a couple thousand dollars or so. So far as I've been able to observe, virtually every club can use a little boost in funding.

Tom Fitzgerald happily reported that there were no grievances filed with that committee. I think he likes it like that.

Kay Lenker said that the GSCS made a profit. The exact numbers are still pending some final crunching and bill-paying, but it's good to hear we have a successful track record with this event—NASC's share of the profit will likely be around $900 or so. Seems there was some confusion about the entry fee that was published in TCN. I don't remember getting a change from $3 to $4, but who knows, maybe I wasn't paying attention when that subject came up—wouldn't be the first time.

Several other committee chairs reported that this was little or no activity for their function, and a few (like myself) were absent. Phil Iversen, in fact, was one of the speakers at the event up in Vallejo where I had the pleasure of listening to him and three other knowledgable coin folks.

The next NASC board meeting will be on Sunday, January 29, 2006, at 10:00 a.m. Oh my gosh! 2006? It's so close now, and I just can't believe how quickly the time is flying by. Anyway, the location will be at the Masonic center in Arcadia (50 W. Duarte Road), so if you get a chance, show up and I'll see you there. Remember also that CSNA will have an open board meeting during the upcoming convention in San Jose in January.

# *We Get Letters...*

## ANA Convention in Los Angeles?

Greg: The last time the ANA held its summer show in Los Angeles was in 1975. It is time they returned. We have a convention center, large hotels, and plenty for visitors to see and do. Some cities have hosted ANA summer shows two and three times since 1975.

If NASC has enough volunteers around, they can have another show in Los Angeles. I wrote the ANA and asked that they give Los Angeles another look. I guess no one has asked since 1975—that's hard to believe.

**—Dr. Sol Taylor**

(President and host of the 1975 ANA show in Los Angeles)

## Kudos

WOW Greg:

You sure know how to make a fellow numismatist's article stand out in a crowd!

Thanks for the great presentation of my article on Play Money (Playing With Money). It looks great and hopefully will help support another outstanding award with ANA in the future.

I read *The Callifornia Numismatist*, Fall 2005 Edition, from cover to cover and you sure do a good job of putting things in prospective in the numismatic world.

Thanks for a job well done. Always a friend and fellow numismatist,

**—Billy J. Febuary**

Greg -

So, congrats on another professional TCN edition—it looks great on the web. Your award on the cover says it all. I enjoyed your article and photos about the GSCS, especially since so many members of SDNS are featured. I am scrambling to produce my first SDNS *Bulletin* and wanted to report on SDNS participation in GSCS. May I use your photos of the exhibit winners in our *Bulletin*? I can give you credit at the bottom with "Photos courtesy *The California Numismatist* / Greg Burns" or whatever you want. I can pluck the photos right off the web.

I've got many hard acts to emulate, Rex's, and yours. Hopefully, I can learn from them all.

Many thanks,

**—Jim Wells**

*You bet, Jim; you're welcome to use the photos. And congratulations on your new position; I'm certain you'll do a fine job.*

*Greg*

## An Unfortunate Passing

With all the sadness and trauma going on in the world at the moment, it is worth reflecting on the death of a very important person, which almost went unnoticed last week because of

Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Larry LaPrise, the man who wrote "The Hokey Pokey," died peacefully at age 93. The most traumatic part for his family was getting him into the coffin. They put his right leg in. And then the trouble started.

**—Joel Anderson**

## Correction

Greg,

Received my CA Numismatist yesterday. Contrary to remark on p. 37 that I received 4 exhibit awards at GSCS, I received 2 awards, both for same exhibit. I had 3 exhibits. Thanks for including the photos, though, especially of my winning exhibit!

**—Ken Spindler**

## Final Giveaway?

Dear Greg:

I am a brand new member of the Sacramento Valley Coin Club. At the last meeting I picked up a recent copy of *The California Numismatist*. On the back cover, under the interesting commentary of "A Knight's Dream" painting, it states, "...if you're reading this please contact the editor for your free prize."

Is it too late to receive a prize?

**—Mary A. Miller**

*Mary, you're the very last to receive one. The door is now* absolutely *shut. For the record I gave away a total of 7 Roosevelt dimes from my birth year—1954.*

*Greg*

## From the Katzmans

Dear Friends of Mom,

I just wanted to give you an update on how we are doing. *We* are doing as well as can be expected. The minor injuries Dad, Sandy and Bill had are mostly memories. Dad is moving on and planning trips to see both friends and sights he's always wanted to see. He will be doing his first major trip in March joining me on an Eclipse cruise out of Genoa, Italy that visits Rome, Naples, Alexandria, Egypt, Cyprus, Turkey and Rhodes, Greece. I had previously mentioned the possiblity of a cruise to disburse mom's ashes, but no decision has been made on that.

I have attached a photo of mom; those of you who made the service will recognize it. If anyone would like a hard copy, please let me know. This photo was taken on their July cruise.

Lastly, if anyone is interested I have a dvd of mom/dad on our trip to Panama to see an almost total eclipse of the sun. While the bulk of it (8 minutes) deals with the eclipse, I do interview my parents and later on you hear mom as she is questioning me as to what is going on.

On behalf of the family, we wish you all a great Thanksgiving.

**—Harold Katzman**

# *Youth Corner*

*by Stan Turrini*
*CSNA Youth Numismatist Coordinator*

Two issues ago I presented some results from a random, as well as rough, survey of some of the youngsters who were in my drafting classes at Will C. Wood High School in Vacaville, California.

Their responses continue to be interesting and humorous, and to your Youth Numismatist Coordinator reflect that numismatics has an image and perception problem. Now, to most *California Numismatist* readers that matter is inconsequential, because the actual number of young members involved in our hobby at this very moment are few and far-between. Statistics would confirm my judgment.

Yet, what does this speak for our hobby in the future? That is my point. That is why I offer to the readers these survey results.

On the first of November in my Drafting and remedial Government classes, plus Mr. Lloyd Chan's advanced Physics class, and in a much more formal matter, a prepared survey similar to the aforementioned was voluntarily conducted. The survey asked for personal information—name, age, grade, hobbies, sports, if the student worked, and if they were involved in Scouting—and several questions:

*Have you heard of or read the phrase "the world of money?"*

*How would you define or explain the phrase "the world of money?"*

*Have you heard of numismatics?*

*How would you define or explain the word "numismatics?"*

*If you could describe someone who collects coins, please give your image of him or her. Be descriptive.*

*Do you know someone who collects coins? Who?*

The first thing that struck me about the responses was the significant number of students that have yet to hear, read, or know of the phrase "the world of money" and the word *numismatics*. Few knew even rough definitions or meanings, although a good number concluded that *numismatics*, with the *num* and *matics*, was rooted in something to do with numbers and maybe mathematics.

Sidebar: on the morning after, Mr. Steve Wright, champion basketball coach and special education instructor whose daily routine always commences in my classroom before the official school day, walked into my computer lab room. Passing my legendary IBM Wheelwriter typewriter, he noticed that I had just word-processed and

set-down a letter on the American Numismatic Association's (ANA) new letterhead, which emphasizes the word *numismatics* in gold print. His comment was, pointing the word, "Your hobby could attract many more if it didn't use a word no one knows." Can anyone in our hobby refute his observation? However, I am drifting from the intention for this Youth Corner.

Here are some randomly selected responses:

Description and Image of Someone Who Collects Coins:

"Someone who loves the history of money and the countries where it comes from; patient and willing to spend time working and finding valuable or old coins"—Amanda, 16

"Old, thinning hair, wears a gray zip-sweatshirt"—Andre, 17

"An old person who has coins their grandparents gave them. Possibly a hermit"—Corey, 17

"Snobby, clean-cut, stuffy, with glasses, probably smart and articulate"—Marlie, 17

"Old, grumpy, gray hair, glasses"—Robert, 14

"Someone that is a 'square'. Nerdy people with glasses"—Brian, 16

"I would think of them as having too much time on their hands, and a little bit obsessive"—Dylan, 14

"A smart person who should know what they are doing"—Matt, 14

A middle aged man—Thomas, 17

"Old, traveled around the world"—Marc, 16

I could go on, and could even enlarge this survey among a larger sample at my high school, which is atypical to the average high school here in California, because our campus remains mostly white and English speaking compared to the metropolitan areas of the San Francisco Bay Area and Los Angeles Basin and growing Central Valley. This I would like to do and would welcome *California Numismatist* readers, and those elsewhere, to conduct and to compile replies using either my version or something similar.

But, getting back, the first conclusion cannot be dismissed: from the viewpoint of the young, our hobby is seen as something for the "old, introverted, well-off, and sedate."

Their comments, scribbled in pencil and pen, with grammar and spelling errors, as was mentioned in my prior Youth Corner, might mean nothing. Yet, in walking and working the massive American Numismatic Association (ANA) July 2005 'World's Fair of Money', in San Francisco and most any local coin show here in California, my observation continues: a hobby for the middle aged, older, white male.

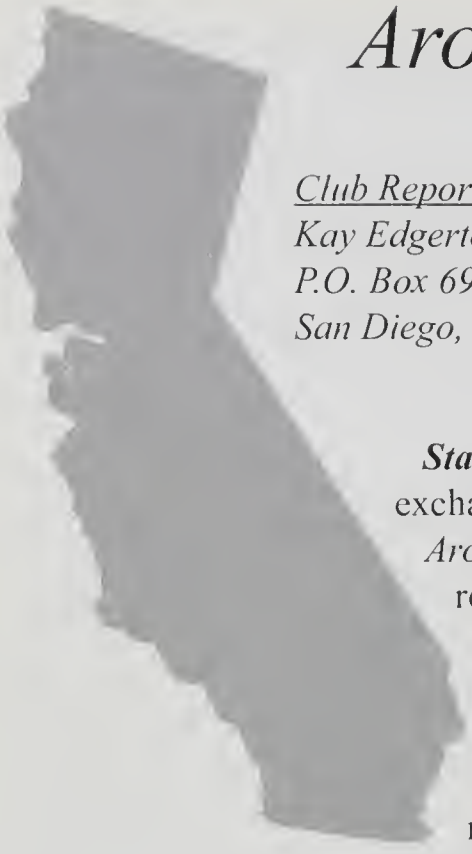
But, as in any survey, rough or statistically verified, there was that anomaly, and from Haywood, age 13, there was this, in answer to "Do you know someone who collects coins? Who?"

"I collect coins, every time I do not have exact change. I collect them from the cashier, or the change machine. My prized coin is a 1999 gently used quarter".

Well, Readers, I think we do have a potential "Coin Hobbyist" with Haywood.

Until next time, remember, have fun with your hobby!

# *Around the State...*

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***Stan's Statement:*** Greetings! A recent e-mail exchange highlights an issue about coverage in the *Around the State* column. Simply put, we need to receive the newsletters from local coin clubs in a regular and timely manner. Greg Burns, Kay Lenker, and I are all volunteers, and we do have a life other than *The California Numismatist*; so, if something is omitted or forgotten, it was not deliberate or willful. Mistakes and errors simply do happen.

## Club Reports...

**ALAMEDA COIN CLUB** dues: $5.00. Our "Island Coin Club" is still seeking a no-cost or cheap rent meeting location in Alameda, and it continues to meet at Juanita's Restaurant, 1324 Park Street, Alameda, on the first Tuesday of each month. President **Gordon R. Donnell** would appreciate any contacts and information about possible meeting sites. **Donald R. Barsi** is again the bourse coordinator for the club's June 18, 2006 coin show; other details pending. The ACC has begun a regular meeting auction, and "the bidding has been spirited with very few unsold lots. Everyone in attendance seems to have a great time." The auctioneer is **Chuck Call**.

**ANCIENT COIN CLUB OF LOS ANGELES** In August **Randy Butler** gave a program on *Travels in Turkey*. In September it was announced that the projector had been purchased. **Bruce Eacrett** and **Bill Frost** spoke on *The Cave Paintings of France*. October was a hands-on demonstration on coin cleaning. The presentation was by **Ken Baumheckel** and **Bob Effler** who first showed slides and then asked for coins to be used as examples. Members were asked to contribute a $5 fee to use materials and equipment. It was so well received that it carried over to the November meeting. December's program will be the care and feeding of the new projector.

**BAY CITIES COIN CLUB** *The Bulletin* always has at least one article on a numismatic topic. September's topics were *Case of the Gilded Nickel* and *Coins of Cuba*. The program for October was *Aviation in Numismatics*.

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**COINEERS COIN CLUB** had club president, **Lance Dohe**, speak on *Coin Grading*.The club has been selling books from their library, but interest so far has been marginal. A new starting time for meetings is 6:30 p.m. in order to allow time for clean up and vacating the building by 8:30 p.m. The main program in October was a VHS presentation on the Higgins Money Museum which started as a private museum to showcase the money collection of Iowa collector Bill Higgins.

**COVINA COIN CLUB** August meeting was our *Buy, Sell & Trade* night that seemed very busy and successful. September was *Other Hobbies* and seven members brought and talked about their other hobby. Many us came away educated about a variety of hobbies. October was *Pie Month* and **Bill Nash** brought a film titled *.900 Fine*. November was an expanded *Show and Tell*. Members were asked to bring in interesting items and tell about them in 5 minutes or less. The Christmas meeting will be on 21st December and will feature our famous *Dice Game*. All are encouraged to bring a favorite dessert or seasonal goodie to share with those present. Coffee, punch, nuts, and candies will be provided by the club. There will not be an auction nor a *Show and Tell* that night, but Santa might come.

**CULVER CITY COIN CLUB** In September **Ahtio Nance** and **Rene** announced that they are getting married. The program was *Show and Tell*. In October we watched a video from Rare Coin Magazine. In November we will have nominations for officers for 2006 and elections will be held in December. The club newsletter contains lots of news but omits last names so they are not available.

**CUPERTINO COIN CLUB** Last August 27, the CCC joined its neighbor, the San Jose Coin Club, for their annual joint picnic which "was another great success with forty-nine members and friends enjoying the good weather at Cupertino, California's Las Palmas Park. Fourteen individuals, signed-up, must have gotten lost and did not show, but everyone there enjoyed the barbecued tri-tip steak, chicken, hot dogs, beans, salads, and lots of great desserts." Involved

with this annual event were: **Alvin H. W. Lo**, coordinator, **Lawrence Benson**, **Donald Burns**, **Raymond Niblett**, **Kenneth J. Barr**, **Gary Acquistapace**, and **Ronald Ishizaki**, with chefs **Fredrick Davis**, **Keith Scott**, Lawrence Benson, and **Dean Soderstrom**. Later the CCC celebrated its Annual SeptemberFest at its September meeting. As CCC Interim Editor Al Lo reported, "my spies reported to me that is was another memorable night of feasting, fun, and frivolity! SeptemberFest Coordinator **Reuben Gallegos** and Togos Coordinator Ron Ishizaki, with their crew of helpers, made sure that everyone had plenty to eat and drink. There was even enough for people to take home!

**DELTA COIN CLUB** reports that it is celebrating its Golden Jubilee Fiftieth Anniversary on Saturday, January 28, 2006, at the Best Western Stockton Inn, 4219 East Waterloo Road, at Highways 99 and 88, in Stockton, with an Anniversary Banquet. Price is $20.00 per person, and reservations may be mailed to PO Box 216, Victor, California, 95253-0216. The master of ceremonies is **Michael S. Turrini**, and the guest speaker will be **Dr. Walter A. Ostromecki, Jr.**, speaking on *Looking Back a Half-Century*. Salutations from local coin clubs and others in California would be welcomed and should be addressed to the aforementioned post office box. Looking back, the Delta Coin Club earned a record $879.00 from its Benefit Auction at the September meeting: "about forty-six members and guests attended the Club's Benefit Auction...nearly one hundred lots brought the Club $879.00. Thanks to the bidders, and donors, plus our two auctioneers, **Kevin V. Maloy** and **David Lanphear** and also **President Anthony Rantz**, who numbered all the donated lots and made auction lists."

**DIABLO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY** also held an auction. At its September meeting, the DNS earned a record $801.00. Exactly ninety-nine donated lots were auctioned off by the team of **Michael M. Stanley** and **Michael S Turrini**. They took over an hour to sell all the lots. Donations were received from Michael M. Stanley, Michael S. Turrini, **James Doyle**, **William Green**, and **Donald R. Barsi**. Later, at the DNS' October meeting William Green gave a program on buying coins on the Internet. The DNS held its annual holiday party on December 15. Report on its success in the next TCN. **President James H. Laird** will be the host and gracious coordinator for this event.

**DOWNEY NUMISMATISTS** In September we saw the second half of the video *The Gold Rush*. The club is temporarily eliminating the Mexican two peso gold piece from the monthly drawing in order to build up their finances. In October the club saw the slides by Bill Fivaz on the *Do's and Don'ts of Coin Collecting*. This is a very helpful program interesting to both newcomers and veteran collectors alike. *The Newsletter* has been running a series on Lewis and Clarke on the back page.

**FAIRFIELD COIN CLUB** dues: $7.00. Completed its Sixteenth Annual Fairfield Coin and Collectibles Show last September with a nice steady crowd

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registered in excess of two hundred plus. Much of the success to this one-day coin show was credited to **Secretary Robert F. Tedder**, who tripled as the bourse, show, and publicity coordinators, and he never played baseball! In addition, credit is given to **Michael S. Turrini**, who "arrived at 5:10 AM with his Ranger loaded with the essential items, which made everyone's job much easier in the long run," and also **Michael Rolfe**, **William F. Bartz**, **Robert W. Belleau, Sr.**, **Jon Maria Marsh**, **Dr. Rodney W. Baker**, **Russell Leach**, **Jan D. Henke**, **Gerald 'Mr. G.' Singer**, and **Charles Luce**, "who came all the way-up from Chula Vista, California and was a great help at the Registration Table". FCC has its own e-mail at FCC-info@direcway.com.

**FONTANA UNITED NUMISMATISTS** held its semi-annual auction in September. Of the 100 lots available, 78 were sold with 14 members in attendance. Most members were active in the bidding. October was *Nona Moore Annual Peoples Choice* display night. All exhibits included a numismatic theme. November is the setting for the *White Elephant Auction* with all proceeds going to the club treasury.

**FREMONT COIN CLUB** had a very busy September meeting: **J.C. Wang** talked about and displayed *The Color of Copper Coins*. September also had the club's *Other Hobbies Night* with fourteen participants. Talk about a busy session!

**FRESNO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY Editor Randy Clifton** reported some sad news in the September newsletter: "...**Dick Bier** has passed away. Dick was one of our more dedicated members...going back over thirty years. He attended meetings regularly and contributed his time in serving at the Society's big coin show every year...as well as being one of the Society's Presidents." The FNS held its *Annual White Elephant Auction* at the September meeting: "As your Auctioneer [Randy Clifton] with the help from my outstanding Assistant, **Dennis Soliday**, plus my newly acquired Floor Man, **Davey Joe Josephine**, the Society managed to raise a whopping Five Hundred Seventy-Seven Dollars. That has got to be a new record for our White Elephants".

**GATEWAY COIN CLUB** also had sad news: **"Doodle" Wilson** was reported to have passed away in September after having been in pain and suffering for the past few months, but managed to attend the club's June coin show. It would be his final GCC visit. As eulogized in the October 2005 *Coinnections*: "He spent little time up front in the spotlight, but he was at every Gateway meeting that he could physically attend, every coin show, every picnic, and every other special time held during his tenure as a member, and at each of these he was involved with so many of the details and background responsibly that needed to be done for a volunteer organization, as ours, to continue. 'Doodle' was simply a member that kept groups, like our Gateway Coin Club, going year and year, without fail...From the bottom of our collective hearts, Thank You, 'Doodle', For It All." Assistant editor addendum: I attended and sponsored a CSNA *Youth and Information Table* at the June Gateway Coin Club show, and there had my final greetings and brief time with "Doodle". You could read his eyes: the joy, if not the strength, of our hobby were still with him. It was good that he spent those few hours there.

**GLENDALE COIN CLUB** September meeting was held across the street from the regular meeting place as the bank double-booked the meeting room. We did a few show and tells while enjoying pastries and coffee. Overall the club made the best of the situation and a fun time was had by all. In October **Mark Watson** presented a talk on *Fractional Currency*. The presentation was created by Wendell Wolka as part of the *Introduction to Paper Money* class at this year's ANA Summer Seminar.

**GREATER ORANGE COUNTY COIN CLUB Guy Araby** spoke about his life as a coin collector and dealer with a focus on his world-class collection of military payment certificates at the August meeting. September meeting was the annual *White Elephant Sale*. All proceeds go directly into the club treasury which needs some help.

**HEARTLAND COIN CLUB** It appears that we will have enough interest to strike next year's medal set. The medal design contest will be held at the November meeting. Members who want sets are asked to make a $10 deposit with **Joyce Darnell** the medal chairman. The club has a junior vice president **Cole Schenewerk** who has been presenting ANA youth numismatist programs that are available for junior collectors. In October he explained how juniors could earn YN coins from the ANA. The fall show, while small, showed a profit.

**HEMET NUMISMATISTS** Other hobbies were focused on at the August meeting. Many interesting stories were shared. In September the club enjoyed an ice cream social and *Slot Machines* by **Joe Lampman**. Joe showed and demonstrated some of his fabulous machines and told tales about them. Joe has been collecting these older slots for 23 years. He restores the machines and had period coins so that members could pull handles a few times.

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**INTERNATIONAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF SAN DIEGO** Topic for August was *The Western Hemisphere* and included all countries west of the prime meridian. That covered a lot of material and included the USA which is not usually included in our meetings. September was *Primitive and Unusual Money*. This included anything used as money that did not have the mark of an issuing authority. We examined the *Science and Tools of Numismatics* and had a swap night in October. Members brought duplicate items for sale or trade.

**LIBERTY NUMISMATIC SOCIETY** reported that its *Annual October Book Auction* was cancelled this year, while thanking prior donors, **Edgar D. Fulwider**, **Kenneth J. Barr**, and **Joseph Wargo**. Instead, the society's October meeting was *Numismatic Monthly Publications*, with members bringing in their favorite monthly numismatic periodical and talking about it. The intention of this program was "our continuing recognition of new members and [to] try to bring some 'world of money' expertise to their novice ventures into our hobby". Earlier at the society's September meeting, the program was similar: *Book Report Month*, with numismatic references and titles being shared.

**LIVERMORE VALLEY COIN CLUB** Just a couple of short notices from LVCC: **President Steven Kramer** stepped down as president and his successor is **Chuck White**. Also, **Howard Kosanke**, a long-term member, has relocated to Beaver State, Oregon, ending his thirty years plus with the LVCC. For his exemplary service, **President Harry W. Davis**, of the Northern California Numismatic Association (NCNA), presented to him, on Tuesday, November 15, a "President's Medal", the first-ever bestowed.

**LONG BEACH COIN CLUB** heard **Jerry Kleeb** discuss *Philippine/American Money* in September. The club is looking for an editor. In the meantime **Roy Iwata** is filling in publishing and mailing out the *Courier*. **Bill Cregan** spoke on *Coinage of Charles E. Barber* in October. *Bourse Night* was held in November. Only members were permitted to sell items. **Warren Heistand** has resigned as secretary and editor.

**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION** By the time this issue of TCN is printed and mailed, the Nor-Cal VI Coin Show has become history. NCNA's three-times-a-year multi-page newsletter, titled *NCNA Heads and Tales*, reaches a major milestone and record in April, 2006, when it celebrates its silver jubilee. Twenty-five years, all with the same editor, **Michael S. Turrini**.

**PACIFIC COAST NUMISMATIC SOCIETY** Looking back, the esteemed PCNS has had some fine presenters: youth numismatist **Steven Caywood** at the July meeting with *A History of the Solidus*; at the September meeting, **Federico Castillo** with *A Historical Perspective on the Establishment of Central American Mints*, and the October meeting with **Dr. Michael F. Wehner** presenting *California Gold Rush Bills of Exchange.*

**PENINSULA COIN CLUB** Dues: $6.00. The recent Katrina Hurricane hit the PCC too: **Bruce Greenblatt**, the PCC's newsletter editor, is from New Orleans, and he auctioned a BU Silver Dollar on eBay with all proceeds going to the relief effort. Assisting the club with donations have been **Fred G. van den Haak** and **Richard Douglas**. Contacts with the PCC may be via bgreenblatt@yahoo.com.

**REDWOOD EMPIRE COIN CLUB** held at its September meeting *Type Set Night* with eighteen participants. The next meeting in October witnessed the club's sixth annual *Helen and Roy Roberts Benefit Auction*, with 50 donated items that earned the club $448.50. Sad news: **Ken Jordan** passed away recently having just attended the RECC's September meeting. He was a very early member of the club and served in the 1960's three terms as the club's president. A Marine, he survived Iwo Jima and was buried with full honors.

**SACRAMENTO VALLEY COIN CLUB** heard these speakers recently: in August, **David Showers** presenting *Fiscal Papers*, and in September, **Tracy Duncan** with *American Numismatic Association (ANA) Grading Standards*, and finally in October **Jerry Carsmen** speaking on *Counterfeit Coins*.

**SAN FRANCISCO COIN CLUB** Wow! SFCC reports that its active membership *doubled* thanks to ANA Governor Dr. Donald H. Kagin's generous and enthusiastic support with recruitment of new members to local San Francisco Bay Area coin clubs, during the July ANA's World's Fair of Money in San Francisco. SFCC attracted forty-six additional members! Several of these new members attended the club's October meeting, with the theme of *Canada Night*, and heard **Paul R. Johnson**, from Unionville, Ontario, Canada, share and speak on *Canadian Numismatics*. He enjoyed a nice weekend visit to northern California, and a quick tour of San Francisco, along the Pacific, with **Michael S. Turrini**. They even visited, with clouds, overcast, and drizzle, the famous Baker Beach!

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**SAN JOSE COIN CLUB** Boy, you cannot have it any better than this, as reported in the San Jose Coin Club's *Todo Dinero*: "San Jose Coin Club's 15 year old **Junior Vice President Ryan Johnson** became one of the youngest Life Members of the Cupertino Coin Club. Ryan was presented a silver uniface medal at the neighboring Cupertino Coin Club's Annual Banquet, last October 23, at the Blue Pheasant, in Cupertino, California. Ryan was signed up shortly after his birth, by **Ray and Sally Johnson**, and has been an active member ever since. Congratulations, Ryan!" Earlier in September, at the SJCC's September meeting, **Chuck White**—himself once a YN—spoke on *Eight Centuries in Eight Minutes*: "it took a little longer than eight minutes, but as it is in all Chuck's programs, it was interesting and humorous." Wedding bells: **Chuck Call** and **Dorothy Galovich** tied the knot this past summer. Congratulations on the wonderful news!

**SANTA ANA COIN CLUB** had no meeting in September as the meeting place was not available. In October we watched the video tape *Rare Coin Magazine* produced by David Lisot.

**SOLANO SILVER ROUND CLUB** reports that its next medal issue would be for the USS Missouri with Mount Fuji in the background, by **Jan D. Henke**, who is also creating a design based upon the oldest known covered bridge in the United States, located in Pennsylvania. The monthly *Silver Notes*, of the SSRC, edited by **Robert F. Tedder**, would gladly include local coin club order forms and announcements. Please contact the SSRC at PO Box 3518, Fairfield, California, 94533-0351.

**STANISLAUS COUNTY COIN CLUB President Mike Tandy** expressed appreciation to **Terry Woodward**, in the November *Gold Strike*: "especially Terry Woodward, for jumping in and literally saving our club. All those whose hung-in there and stood behind Terry just confirms their loyalty to the club, during these trying times. Thanks!" Under the enthused leadership of Mike Tandy, the SCCC has been quite active and balanced in its meeting programs and activities. The

October meeting witnessed a doubleheader of **Lloyd Solomon** on *Mormon Money* and Terry Woodward on *Redemption Silver*. The November meeting had **Troy Thoreson** speak on *Buying and Selling on eBay*.

**TUSTIN COIN CLUB** saw a video *Do's and Don'ts of Coin Collecting* by Bill Fivaz. This is a great program. If your club has not seen it check it out. Program for November will be *Show and Tell*, along with a Pot Luck with the club providing sandwiches. There will be no meeting in December.

**UPLAND COIN CLUB** lost **Thelma Katzman** who was the editor of *Upland Coin Talk* and there has not been a replacement. *[Greg's addition: I noticed that the past couple of issue of* Upland Coin Talk *have been edited and published by UCC member Janet Reeves, so it looks like the mantle has passed into good hands.]*

**VALLEJO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY** reminds TCN readers that Sunday, May 7, 2006 is the date for its Thirty-Fourth Annual Vallejo Coin and Collectibles Show in Vallejo. Three collector groups are scheduled to gather during this Show: the Solano Silver Round Club (SSRC), the Western Wooden Money Club (WWMC), and the So-Called Dollar Collectors Club (SCDCC). The bourse coordinator is **Harry W. Davis**, and he may be telephoned at 707-642-0216. Back at the August meeting, **ANA Regional Coordinator Michael S Turrini** honored **Robert F. Tedder** with a Regional Coordinator's Citation. Speaking of honors, President Harry W. Davis recognized at the October meeting **Paul R. Johnson**, from Unionville, Ontario, Canada, with the title "Honorary Member #9". By the time this *California Numismatist* issue is printed and delivered, this society would have done two major events: its *Nineteenth Annual Joint Christmas Party* on December 10, and its *Twelfth Annual Maxine M. Hopperstad Memorial White Elephant Auction* on December 7, that at the end of November had over two hundred plus lots committed.

**VERDUGO HILLS COIN CLUB** announces that its 41st coin show will be held April 9, 2006. As the show sold out early dealers were asked not to wait too long. Dealers are invited to set up a small bourse table at the meetings. They are to call **Jeff Klemzak** at 818-957-8799 and leave a message. In September **Walt Ostromecki** presented his program *ANA and CNA Souvenirs*. He brought a large box of memorabilia from San Francisco and from the CNA convention in Calgary. **Steve Rycewicz** was back in October to present *Coin Grading, Part 2*. Steve is a former member of VHCC and is very active in the young numismatist program. He put out 11 of his coins (quarters, halves and dollars) to be graded by members with his coin grading sheet. He later provided us with the results given by eight professional numismatists and we compared our own grades. Very interesting! **Greg Burns** will present his program *Lusitania Medals* in November.

**VISALIA COIN CLUB** heard **Phil Plettner** talk about *French Tokens* "when he went on a twelve day tour throughout France", at the club's August meeting. The club has a new mailing address: PO Box 7015, Visalia, California, 93290-7015. Also, Plunkett Coin Company at 204 West Main Street, in downtown Visalia, has been changed to Main Street Coin Company.

**WHITTIER COIN CLUB** The club's anniversary dinner was held on September 9th at the Grand China Buffet. There were 22 in attendance. **Ann Eaton** brought a wonderful chocolate anniversary cake that disappeared quickly. In October the video *The Secret Life of Money* (Part I) was our feature program. Part II will be shown in November. This will be our last meeting at Casa Whittier. Our new location is the La Habra Community Center located 2 miles east of our present location. The December meeting will be at the northwest corner of La Habra Blvd. and Euclid Street. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m. and continue until 8:30. We will see how this works out. The meeting is a non-business one. We will have a *Silent Auction*, a canned-food drive and a holiday cookie refreshment break. Members are asked to donate numismatic items of at least $3 value that would be of general interest for members and guests to bid on. All unsold items remain the property of the club to give during the year.


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# *Directory of Member Clubs*

*Please review your club's information. Changes may be sent by a club officer via mail to the editor at P.O. Box 2031, Glendora, CA 91740, or by e-mail to: gburns@adelphia.net. CSNA and NASC membership status is indicated in parentheses at the end of each club's listing.*

**Alameda Coin Club**—meets 2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Veteran's Building, 2203 Central Avenue at Oak Street, Alameda; mailing address: P.O. Box 1763, Alameda, CA 94201. (CSNA)

**Ancient Coin Club of Los Angeles**—meets 2nd Sunday, 1:30 p.m., Balboa Mission Town Hall shopping center (between barber shop & beauty supply), 16916 San Fernando Mission Blvd., Granada Hills; mailing address: c/o K. L. Friedman, 16255 Ventura Blvd., Encino, CA 91436; e-mail: Fausta@pacbell.net; Web site: http://mjconnor.home.mindspring.com/aecla/. (NASC)

**Bay Cities Coin Club**—meets 1st Saturday, 1:00 p.m., Santa Monica Public Library, 17th Street and Montana Ave., Santa Monica; mailing address: P.O. Box 943, Santa Monica, CA 90406. (NASC, CSNA)

**Brentwood Coin Club**—meets 1st Thursday, 7:00 p.m., Raley's Food Center (staff room by the Pharmacy), 2400 Sand Creek Rd., Brentwood; mailing address: P.O. Box 1237, Brentwood, CA 94513; e-mail: Collectors@CoinClub.ec. (CSNA)

**California Exonumist Society**—meets quarterly at Golden State Coin Show, CSNA Conventions and at an all-day show in June or July; mailing address: Kay Edgerton Lenker, P.O. Box 6909, San Diego, CA 92166. (NASC, CSNA)

**California State Numismatic Association**—meets twice a year during CSNA conventions at various locations; mailing address: Dennis Halladay, 20567 Nathan Dr., Riverside, CA 92508; e-mail: bilfeb@msn.com; Web site: www.coinmall.com/esna. (NASC, CSNA)

**Chula Vista Coin Club**—meets 1st Thursday, 7:00 p.m., Norman Park Senior Center, 270 F Street, Chula Vista; mailing address: 11842 Rocoso Road, Lakeside, CA 92040. (CSNA)

**Coineers Coin Club**—meets 3rd Thursday, 7:00 p.m., 4675 Tecolote Road, San Diego, CA; mailing address: 829 Portsmouth Court, San Diego, CA 92109. (CSNA)

**Covina Coin Club**—meets 3rd Wednesday, 8:00 p.m., American Legion Post 888, 1436 N. Hollenback Ave.; mailing address: Helen Desens, 282 W. Bygrove St., Covina, CA 91722. (NASC, CSNA)

**Culver City Coin Club**—meets 2nd Thursday, 7:00 p.m., El Segundo Library, 111 W. Mariposa Ave., El Segundo (west of Sepulveda; south of LAX); mailing address: Steve Demmer, P.O. Box 813, Culver City, CA 90232. (NASC)

**Cupertino Coin Club**—meets 2nd Friday, 7:00 p.m., West Valley Presbyterian Church, 6191 Bollinger Avenue, Cupertino, CA; mailing address: P.O. Box 448, Cupertino, CA 95015-0448; Web site: www.cupertinocoinclub.homestead.com. (CSNA)

**Delta Coin Club**—meets 2nd and 4th Fridays, 7:00 p.m., St. Paul's Church Auditorium, 2220 West Alpine Street, Stockton; mailing address: P.O. Box 216, Victor, CA 95253. (CSNA)

**Diablo Numismatic Society**—meets 3rd Thursday, 7:00 p.m., Concord Veterans Memorial Building, 2290 Willow Pass Road, Concord; mailing address: P.O. Box 177, Concord, CA 94122-0177. (CSNA)

**Downey Numismatists**—meets 4th Monday, 7:30 p.m., Downey Retirement Center, 11500 Dolan Ave., Downey; mailing address: Albertus Hoogeveen, P.O. Box 222, Downey, CA 90241. (NASC)

**Eureka Coin Club**—meets 1st Tuesday (Sept. to May), 7:00 p.m., First United Methodist Church, Sonora Blvd. and F Streets, Eureka; mailing address: P.O. Box 505, Eureka, CA 95501-0505. (CSNA)

**Fairfield Coin Club**—meets 4th Wednesday (except December), 7:00 p.m., Grace Episcopal Church, Parish Hall #1, corner of First and Kentucky Streets, Fairfield; mailing address: P.O. Box 944, Fairfield, CA 94533-0094. (CSNA)

**Fontana United Numismatists**—meets 2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 9260 Mango Ave. (& Randall), Fontana; mailing address: P.O. Box 71, Fontana, CA 92334. (NASC, CSNA)

**Fremont Coin Club**—meets 2nd and 4th Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., Fremont Elks Club, #2121, 38991 Farwell Drive, Fremont; mailing address: P.O. Box 1401, Fremont, CA 94538. (CSNA)

**Fresno Numismatic Society**—meets 2nd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., Las Palmas Masonic Temple, 2992 East Clinton, Fresno; mailing address: P.O. Box 11525, Fresno, CA 93773-1525. (CSNA)

**Full Step Nickel Club**—Call for local meeting dates and locations; (818) 841-2959, mailing address: Darrell Crane, President, P.O. Box 10909, Burbank, CA 91510; e-mail: grannis@earthlink.net; Web site: www.fullstepnickel.com. (NASC, CSNA)

**Gateway Coin Club**—meets 1st and 3rd Thursday, 7:00 p.m., California Federal Bank, 19th and M Streets, Merced; mailing address: P.O. Box 3101, Merced, CA 95344-1101. (CSNA)

**Glendale Coin Club**—meets 2nd Friday, 7:30 p.m., CitiBank, 2350 Honolulu Blvd., Glendale; mailing address: GCC, c/o Mark Watson, P.O. Box 6317, Lancaster, CA 93539-6317; e-mail: mark.e.watson@sbcglobal.net; Web site: www.GlenCoin.com. (NASC, CSNA)

**Greater Orange County Coin Club**—meets 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Costa Mesa Neighborhood Community Center, Fairview Room, 1845 Park, Costa Mesa; mailing address: Gary Beedon, P.O. Box 2335, Huntington Beach, CA 92647; e-mail: Beedon@earthlink.net. (NASC, CSNA)

**Heartland Coin Club**—meets 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Bostonia Park Recreation Building, 1049 Bostonia St., El Cajon; mailing address: Lee Darnell, 1728 San Vicente Road, Ramona, CA 92065; e-mail: jyjoylee@pacbell.net. (NASC, CSNA)

**Hemet Numismatists**—meets 3rd Wednesday, 12:00 Noon, Provident Savings Bank, 1600 Florida Avenue (Northwest Corner Giard and Florida), Hemet; mailing address: P.O. Box 51, Homeland, CA 92548. (NASC, CSNA)

**International Coin Collector's Society**—meets <unknown>; mailing address: P.O. Box 854, Van Nuys, CA 91408. (CSNA)

**International Numismatic Society of San Diego**—meets 4th Wednesday, 6:15 p.m., North Park Recreational Center, 4044 Idaho, San Diego; mailing address: P.O. Box 161081, San Diego, CA 92176. (CSNA)

**Israel Numismatic Society/Israel Coin Club of Los Angeles**—meets 3rd Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Westside Jewish Community Center—Founders Room, 5870 W. Olympic Blvd., Los Angeles; mailing address: 6266 Drexel Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90048. (NASC)

**Leisure World Coin Club**—meets 2nd Wednesday, 1:30 p.m., Clubhouse No. 3, Room 2, Seal Beach Leisure World; mailing address: Austin Overholtz, 1331 Pelham Road, #67A, Seal Beach, CA 90740. (NASC)

**Liberty Numismatic Society**—meets 1st Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., Millbrae Recreation Center, 477 Lincoln Circle, Millbrae; mailing address: P.O. Box 300, Millbrae, CA 94030-0300; Web site: www.lns-coin-club.org. (CSNA)

**Livermore Valley Coin Club**—meets 3rd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Livermore Public Library, Community Room, 1000 South Livermore Avenue, Livermore; mailing address: Steven Kramer, P.O. Box 610, Livermore, CA 94551. (CSNA)

**Long Beach Coin Club**—meets 1st Monday, 7:00 p.m., Millikan High School Cafeteria, 2800 Snowden Ave., Long Beach; mailing address: P.O. Box 8101, Long Beach, CA 90808. (NASC, CSNA)

**Northern California Numismatic Association**—meets in annual convention each July (Nor-Cal Show), presently in Concord, CA, mailing address: Michael Turrini, P.O. Box 4104, Vallejo, CA 94590. (NASC, CSNA)

**Northrop Grumman Coin Club**—meets 2nd Thursday, 7:00 p.m., 5500 Canoga Avenue, Building 30, APD Eng'g Conference Room, Woodland Hills; mailing address: Walt Wegner, Box 521, Woodland Hills, CA 91365; e-mail: wlwegner@msn.com. (NASC, CSNA)

**Oceanside-Carlsbad Coin Club**—meets 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Encinitas Community Center, 1140 Oakcrest Park Dr., Encinitas; mailing address: c/o Eblen, 1772 Caliban Drive, Encinitas, CA 92024. (NASC, CSNA)

**Pacific Coast Numismatic Society**—meets 4th Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Fort Mason Center, Building C, San Francisco; mailing address: P.O. Box 457656, San Francisco, CA 94147-5656; Web site: www.pcns.org. (CSNA)

**Peninsula Coin Club**—meets 2nd Monday, 7:00 p.m., Palo Alto Elks Lodge, #1471, Board Room, 4229 El Camino Blvd., Palo Alto; mailing address: P.O. Box 60484, Palo Alto, CA 94306-0484; Web site: www.stanford.edu/~clint/pcc. (CSNA)

**Redwood Empire Coin Club**—meets 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Veterans Memorial Building (opposite the county fairgrounds across from highway 12), 1351 Maple Avenue, Santa Rosa; mailing address: P.O. Box 9013, Santa Rosa, CA 95405. (CSNA)

**San Bernardino County Coin Club**—meets 3rd Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Highland Senior Center, 3102 E. Highland Ave., Highland, CA; mailing address: P.O. Box 2745, San Bernardino, CA 92406. (NASC, CSNA)

**San Diego County Inter-Club Numismatic Council**—meets 1st Saturday in February, May, August and November, 7:00 p.m., Peninsula Community Center, 3740 Sport Arena Blvd., San Diego; mailing address: 11842 Rocoso Road, Lakeside, CA 92040. (CSNA)

**San Diego Numismatic Society**—meets 1st Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., North Park Adult Center, 2719 Howard St., San Diego; mailing address: Hunt, 1183 Niles Ave., Chula Vista, CA 91911-3720. (NASC, CSNA)

**San Francisco Coin Club**—meets 4th Friday, 7:00 p.m., Taraval Police Station, Community Room, 2345 24th Ave., San Francisco; mailing address: 2334 35th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94116. (CSNA)

**San Jose Coin Club**—meets 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., American Legion Hall, Post #318, 1504 Minnesota Avenue, San Jose; mailing address: P.O. Box 5621, San Jose, CA 95150-5621; Web site: www.sanjosecoinclub.org. (CSNA)

**Santa Ana Coin Club**—meets 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society Building (Dr. Willella Howe-Waffle House), 120 W. Civic Center Dr., Santa Ana; mailing address: Santa Ana CC, P.O. Box 1404, Santa Ana, CA 92702. (NASC)

**Santa Barbara Coin Club**—meets 4th Monday of even months (except December), 7:30 p.m., Page Youth Center, 4540 Hollister Avenue, Room 5, Santa Barbara; mailing address: P.O. Box 6205, Santa Barbara, CA 93160. (NASC, CSNA)

**Santa Maria Coin Club**—meets 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Oak Knolls Haven, 4845 S. Bradley Rd.; mailing address: P.O. Box 7186, Santa Maria, CA 93456. (CSNA)

**Society for International Numismatics**—meets <unknown>; mailing address: P.O. Box 943, Santa Monica, CA 90406. (CSNA)

**Society of Lincoln Cent Collectors**—meets as available; mailing address: Dr. Sol Taylor, 13515 Magnolia Blvd., Sherman Oaks, CA 91423. (NASC)

**Solano Silver Round Club**—meets 2nd Thursday, 7:00 p.m., J.J. North's Grand Buffet, Banquet Room, 21315 Gateway Blvd., #D2, Solano Hall, Fairfield; mailing address: P.O. Box 3518, Fairfield, CA 94533-3518. (CSNA)

**Stanislaus County Coin Club**—meets 2nd and 4th Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Denny's Restaurant, 1525 McHenry Ave., Modesto; mailing address: P.O. Box 1672, Modesto, CA 95353-16772; e-mail: editor@stancocoinclub.com; Web site: www.stancocoinclub.com. (CSNA)

**The World Coin Club**—meets 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Senior Citizens Center of West Covina, Rm. 15, Cortez Ave. (between Citrus and Hollenbeck); mailing address: c/o Lloyd Beauchaine, 1629 Chetney Dr., West Covina, CA 91790. (CSNA)

**Tustin Coin Club**—meets 1st Friday, 7:00 p.m., Tustin Senior Center, 200 South "C" St., Tustin; mailing address: Roy Iwata, P.O. Box 2449, Seal Beach, CA 90740. (NASC)

**Upland Coin Club**—meets 3rd Saturday, 7:30 p.m., Magnolia Rec. Center, 651 W. 15th Street, Upland; mailing address: P.O. Box 1306, Garden Grove, CA 92842-1306. (NASC, CSNA)

**Vallejo Numismatic Society**—meets 1st Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Uncle Sam's Chinese and American Food, corner of Broadway and Sereno Drive, Vallejo; mailing address: P.O. Box 4281, Vallejo, CA 94590-0428. (CSNA)

**Ventura County Coin Club**—meets 2nd Thursday, 7:00 p.m., Church of Christ Church, Ventura; mailing address: P.O. Box 3263, Ventura, CA 93006. (CSNA)

**Verdugo Hills Coin Club**—meets 2nd Monday, 7:15 p.m., CitiBank, 2350 Honolulu Ave., Montrose; mailing address: P.O. Box 26, Tujunga, CA 91043. (NASC)

**Visalia Coin Club**—meets 4th Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., Visalia Senior Citizen Center, 310 North Locust, Visalia; mailing address: 204 West Main Street, Visalia, CA 93291. (CSNA)

**Western Token Society (WESTS)**—meets <unknown>; mailing address: P.O. Box 723, Merced, CA 95341. (CSNA)

**Western Wooden Money Club**—meets during: Vallejo Coin Show, San Jose Coin Show, and Fairfield Coin Show; mailing address: P.O. Box 3467, Fairfield, CA 94533-3467. (CSNA)

**Whittier Coin Club**—meets 2nd Friday, 7:00 p.m., Casa Whittier Retirement Home, 10615 Jordan Road, Whittier; mailing address: 540 Teakwood Avenue, La Habra, CA 90631. (CSNA)

*Writing for*

# The California Numismatist

Are you a budding author, or perhaps a more experienced essayist? Then read on…

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Authors should submit a brief biography (150 words or less) that includes pertinent information, such as place of birth, professional background, hobby interests and affiliations, and numismatic awards and accomplishments.

## Source Citations

Authors should cite sources used in the preparation of their articles as follows:

Bowers, Q. David. Adventures with Rare Coins. Los Angeles: Bowers & Ruddy Galleries, 1979, pp. 29-32.

Loperfield, John C. "Airborne Particulates: The Silent Nemesis." The Numismatist, 96 (April 1983), pp. 706-09.

## Annual Awards

Each contributor to The California Numismatist is eligible for consideration for prestigious literary awards. These awards are conferred annually and are accompanied by the eternal gratitude of the editor.

**Next deadline for material submission: February 15, 2006**

# *Calendar of Events*

*...mark your calendars and plan to attend!*

- Visit the *California Show List* on the Web at:
  http://home.earthlink.net/~beedon/calshows.htm
- If you have a coin show or other event that you'd like to have listed, please e-mail the following to Gary Beedon at beedon@earthlink.net: dates, name of show, address, facility name, contact info, and any admission or parking fees.

## 2006

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|---|---|
| January 8 | **North County Monthly Coin Show** (Anaheim), Embassy Suites Hotel, 3100 Frontera Street (91 Fwy at Glassell Street). |
| January 13 - 15 | **38th Annual Coin, Stamp & Collectibles Show**, San Jose Coin Club, Parkside Hall, 180 Park Ave., John Sarti (408) 910-7654, wheatcoinman@yahoo.com or www.sanjosecoinclub.org.<br>**CSNA Convention** (to be held concurrent with above—see more info on page 40.) |
| February 4 | **North County Monthly Coin Show** (Anaheim), Embassy Suites Hotel, 3100 Frontera Street (91 Fwy at Glassell Street). |
| February 9 - 11 | **Long Beach Coin, Stamp & Collectibles Expo**, Convention Center, 100 S. Pine Ave., (805) 962-9939, lbexpo@exposunlimited.com. |
| February 12 | **NASC Awards Banquet** (Duarte), details elsewhere in this issue (see page 10). |
| February 18 - 19 | **43rd Coin & Collectibles Show**, San Bernardino County Coin Club, Damus Bldg, National Orange Show Fairgrounds, Mill Street & Arrowhead Ave., Kevin Akin, (951) 787-0318, kevinakin1950@hotmail.com. |
| February 19 | **34th Annual Coin & Collectibles Show** (San Jose), Cupertino Coin Club, Napredak Hall, 770 Montague Expressway, Bruce Braga, (408) 865-0720, ALLOSJ@cs.com. |
| March 5 | **North County Monthly Coin Show** (Anaheim), Embassy Suites Hotel, 3100 Frontera Street (91 Fwy at Glassell Street). |
| March 11 | **CSNA Southern California Educational Symposium** (Fullerton), details elsewhere in this issue (see page 38). |
| March 11 - 12 | **Buena Park Coin Show**, Retail Clerks Hall, corner of Stanton and Crescent, Kerry Pieropan, (714) 271-8946, free parking. |

| | |
|---|---|
| March 12 | **43rd Annual Coin Show** (Livermore), Livermore Valley Coin Club, Elks Lodge, 940 Larkspur, Stephen Kramer, (925) 449-1294, free admission and parking. |
| March 25 - 26 | **38th Annual Coin Show** (Santa Rosa), Redwood Empire Coin Club, Sonoma County Fairgrounds, E. L. Finley Building, 1350 Bennett Valley Road, Merle Avila, daytime-(707) 585-3711, evenings-(707) 824-4811. |
| March 30 - April 2 | **Coin, Stamp & Collectibles Expo** (Santa Clara), 4-day show, 5001 Great American Parkway, (805) 962-9939, scshow@exposunlimited.com |
| April 2 | **North County Monthly Coin Show** (Anaheim), Embassy Suites Hotel, 3100 Frontera Street (91 Fwy at Glassell Street). |
| April 8 | **Coin Show** (Visalia), Sons of Italy Hall, 4211 West Goshen Ave., Leo J. D'Andrea, (559) 738-8128, dandrea@lightspeed.net. |
| May 7 | **Spring Show** (El Cajon), Heartland Coin Club, El Cajon Valley Masonic Lodge, 695 Ballantyne St., Lee Darnell, (760) 789-7181, jyjoylee@pacbell.net, free admission and parking. |
| May 7 | **34th Annual Vallejo Coin Show**, BPOE/Vallejo Elks Lodge #559, Banquet Room, 2850 Redwood parkway, Information: (707) 642-0216 or (707) 547-0518, EMPERORI@juno.com. |
| May 7 | **North County Monthly Coin Show** (Anaheim), Embassy Suites Hotel, 3100 Frontera Street (91 Fwy at Glassell Street). |
| May 24 - 27 | **Anaheim Coin & Collectibles Show**, Anaheim Convention Center, Hall E, Teresa Darling (702) 438-2800, Sam Lopresto (310) 540-4984, wcnc@cox.net. (May 24th is dealer day.) |
| June 1 - 3 | **Long Beach Coin, Stamp & Collectibles Expo**, Convention Center, 100 S. Pine Ave., (805) 962-9939, lbexpo@exposunlimited.com. |
| June 11 | **North County Monthly Coin Show** (Anaheim), Embassy Suites Hotel, 3100 Frontera Street (91 Fwy at Glassell Street). |
| June 18 | **Annual Coins & Collectibles Show** (Alameda), Alameda Coin Club, high school gym, 2220 Central Ave. at Oak Street, Tom Gesner, (510) 923-4216 (days). |
| July 8 - 9 | **Coin, Stamp and Collectibles Show** (Modesto), Stanislaus County Coin Club, Modesto Center Plaza, 10th & K Streets, Sandy Woodward, (209) 668-3682, free admission. |
| July 9 | **North County Monthly Coin Show** (Anaheim), Embassy Suites Hotel, 3100 Frontera Street (91 Fwy at Glassell Street). |
| August 6 | **North County Monthly Coin Show** (Anaheim), Embassy Suites Hotel, 3100 Frontera Street (91 Fwy at Glassell Street). |
| August 26 - 27 | **Golden State Coin Show—GSCS** (Arcadia), CSNA and NASC, Masonic Center, 50 W. Duarte Rd., Arcadia, Gary Beedon, (714) 963-6138, beedon@earthlink.net, free parking. |

# *Officers and Board—CSNA*

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Viee-President ..... Freddie Grant
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20567 Nathan Drive, Riverside, CA 92508-2931

Reeording Seeretary ..... Virginia Bourke
11842 Rocoso Road, Lakeside, CA 92040

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Mike Stanley, 2107 Gill Dr., Coneord, CA 94520
Stan Turrini, P.O. Box 4104, Vallejo, CA 94590

South ..... Gary Beedon, P.O. Box 2335 Huntington Beaeh, CA 92647
Don Foster, 422 Drake Road, Areadia, CA 91007
Craig Roubinek, 6740 Magnolia Ave., Riverside, CA 92506
Rex Salmon

*Appointed Officers*

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Director of Edueation ..... Jim Hunt
1183 Nile Ave., Chula Vista, CA 91911

Editor ..... Greg Burns
P.O. Box 2031, Glendora, CA 91740

Golden State Coin Show Committee ..... Greg Burns, Jim Hunt, Lee Kuntz
(see addresses elsewhere)

Golden State Coin Show Banquet ..... Joyce Kuntz
697 Seripps Drive, Claremont, CA 91711-2640

Historian/Photographer/Medals ..... Joyee Kuntz
697 Seripps Drive, Claremont, CA 91711-2640

Legal Advisor ..... James J. Waldorf
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Librarian ..... Ruth Phillips
227 Duke Ave., Fresno, CA 93727

Membership ..... Phil Iversen
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NASC Representative ..... G. Lee Kuntz
697 Scripps Drive, Claremont, CA 91711-2640

NCNA Representative ..... Mike Stanley
2107 Gill Drive, Coneord, CA 94520

Webmaster ..... Stephen Huston
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Youth Numismatist Coordinator ..... Stan Turrini
P.O. Box 4101, Vallejo, CA 94590

*Officers Emeritus*

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# *Officers and Board—NASC*

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## *Advertising*

**General**

*The California Numismatist* is an educational journal published four times per year and distributed to all California State Numismatic Association (CSNA) and Numismatic Association of Southern California (NASC) members as a membership benefit. Circulation is approximately 800 and most issues are around 80 pages. All advertising is accepted subject to the approval of the editor, and *The California Numismatist* reserves the right to edit advertising form or content.

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| Inside Rear Cover | 180 | 540 |
| Full Page | 125 | 375 |
| Half Page | 75 | 225 |
| Quarter Page | 40 | 120 |

**Publication Deadlines**: February 15, May 15, August 15, and November 15.

# *Numismatic Nostalgia*

## Fifty Years Ago

- I've seen a lot of common name-themes for club coin shows: Coin-o-rama, Expo, XXrd Annual Coin Show, Coin and Stamp Show, but the November, 1955 issue of *Calcoin News* had the first ever "Coinival" I've seen. The (apparently now-defunct) East Bay Coin Club hosted this one, their third annual.
- US Trade dollars in uncirculated condition could be had for less than $15, just a bit less than one would have to pay to buy a Type I gold dollar in the same pristine condition.

## Twenty-Five Years Ago

- Here's a timely item: I notice in the winter, 1980, *NASC Quarterly*, that sustaining member Byron Johnson (past-president of the ANA, TAMS and OIN, and presidential appointee to the 1971 Assay Commission) was a speaker at the January, 1981, Educational Symposium. His topic? *"Playing with Your Coins"*—a talk designed to "get collectors interested in collecting and not investing." Now that's a subject I can support!
- Wow, the CSNA spring convention in 1980 must have been a whopper! I see that the treasurer's report showed $22,668.18 in income and $19,545.79 in expenses, leaving a tidy profit of $2,954.87.
- Uncirculated trade dollars were more likely to go for close to $500, but the uncirculated Type I gold dollars had risen to only around $300.

## Ten Years Ago

- Verdugo Hills Coin Club must hve been scouting for new members. The write-up in *Calcoin News* notes that they held a banana split night! The club served three flavors of ice cream, four toppings, cherries, nuts, etc. The writer concluded, "Boy, oh boy; I wish I was in attendance." I'll bet this would be a winner for any club that tried it.
- Try this; it works! *The NASC Quarterly* carried this item courtesy of the Glendale Coin Club: write down the number of the house you live in. Now double it. Add five and multiply that answer by fifty. Next, add your age (be honest). From the sum you now have, add 365. Finally, subtract 615. You will find, in the results, that your house address number is on the left and your age is on the right.
- Our friend the trade dollar was still commanding around $500, while the gold dollar had risen slightly to around $400.

*High school students at the Bethlehem Central School District in New York created this graphic image of imaginary bank notes as part of their class in "The Ad Agency (Advanced Advertising Design)." Perhaps as an unfortunate sign of the times, there are multiple references to drugs and gangs. Sigh. Well, we can at least be thankful for the majority who had a positive, or at least neutral, designs.—Editor Greg*